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PREFACE.

HE Intention of this Preface is to give the Reader a short View of Music in its different Stages towards Perfection, from the earliest Time down to the Period about A. D. 1500, in which the following Pieces of Music, selected chiefly from some of the oldest Compositions of English Masters, first made their Appearance, and when Music was brought to a high Degree of Improvement in Melody, and more especially in Harmony.

Ir will be necessary to carry the Reader to a very early Date, because each of the following Songs is more or less

built upon a System then established.

Music, like many other Arts, might take its Rise from various Causes, even from Accident, and has been the

Growth of every Soil, though it did not flourish in all of them with equal Luxuriancy of Fancy.

THE rudest Nations have had something that delighted them under this Denomination, according to the Temper and Genius of the People, however barbarous it might sound to our Ears; and we are at full Liberty to suppose, that the Music even of the Greeks, who most cherished it as a Science, was, in its Infancy, but a Consulion of Sounds.

Time and Chance have seconded the Suggestions of Nature in every Art. From certain simple Sounds and Articulations, produced by the Organs of Speech, arose Language; from elevated Language, Poetry; from Modulation of Sound, Vocal Music: and, in like Progression, aukward Gesticulations gave Way to graceful Motions and well-regulated Measures in the Dance.

AFTER Nature had made the Discovery of Vocal Music, Art improved it by the Invention of musical Instruments, producing Sounds resembling those of the Human Voice; First, perhaps, such as give Sounds by Instation; for Instance, the Pipe, the Syrinx, and Flute; secondly, such as produce Tones by Strings of a certain Tension, Length and Size,

the chief of which was the Lyre or Harp.

THE Pipe was the most simple Instrument, and gave only one Sound, but the Flute more and different Sounds, as did also the Syrinx, being formed by an Assemblage of Reeds of various Lengths. The Lyre we shall have Occasion

to speak of hereafter.

What can so strongly paint the first State of Music in the Old World, as that which has lately been discovered in the New? The Inhabitants of Amsterdam Island, in the South Seas, were found to be (instinctively as it were) in Possession of an Instrument resembling the Syrinx; and among the Natives of Otabeite, an Island at a considerable Distance from that of Amsterdam, was one of the Flute Kind, which they blow with the Nose by stopping one Nostril; for they had not (at the Time our Navigators visited them) discovered that the Instation from the Mouth was stronger than that from the Nose. They produce out of it four Tones, the open one and deepest, and three other, by Pressure of the Fingers on three Perforations. These four Tones appear to be the first State of Improvement of the Flute, and constitute a System congenial with that of the ancient Grecian Lyre, with this Difference only, that the most acute Sound of the four in the Grecian Series was a whole Tone, relative to our sharp Key, and that of the Otabeitan half a Tone, similar to our stat Key. The Mode of playing upon the Syrinx is by drawing it rapidly across the Mouth, each Pipe catching a little of the Breath as it passes, and thereby producing a wild Essect, resembling the Sounds of an Octave-Flute. This Picture, drawn from Nature, may serve to give us some Idea of Music in its pristine State of Existence, soon after the Commencement of Human Society.

Ir will not confift with the Brevity I profess, nor afford the Reader much Information, to enter into the visionary and sabulous Age of Music and its Artists, such as Mercury, the reputed Inventor of the Lyre, and Apollo, who excelled in performing upon it: We will therefore proceed to the historical Age, which may give us more Light, though it will be found to dawn but very gradually; for it is scarce discernible as a System, till Athens was in her

Meridian.

FROM whence the Greeks derived the Seeds of the Art, is neither very clear nor very material; but, however, it will

appear that the Fruit has been bolder, and more highly flavoured, every Time it has been transplanted.

Most Writers so far agree, that our present System of Music, in its infant State, was found in Egypt and other Fastern Countries, sostered in Greece and ancient Italy, brought forward towards Adultness in France and Germany, but

to its present Degree of Maturity in England and modern Huly.

GREECE, with regard to Music, was to Italy what Italy has been to us, with this Difference, that it sourished in ancient Greece a long Time, little known to the Romans scientifically, struggling to arrive at Persection; but from Italy it soon travelled into England, where at present it is thought to be in greater Persection than among even the Italians themselves.

The chief Instrument of the Greeks was the Lyre, (consisting in the earliest Times of three or four Strings at most) with which the Voice was rather supported to its proper Pitch, than accompanied with Harmony. In Process of Time, three other Strings being added to the four, furnished them with seven Sounds, which were regulated by Intervals of a Semi-tone and two Tones, and called the System of Terpander, or Diatonic Scale. This Scale of seven Sounds was divided into two Parts, named Tetrachords, the first beginning from E in the Bass, and proceeding to A, the fourth, inclusive; and the second beginning from A, and proceeding on to D, the seventh, also inclusive; so that the highest Sound of the first four became the lowest of the second four. These Diatessams contained each of them a Series of Sounds at equal Distances, namely, in the first from E to F, a Semi-tone, from F to G, a Tone major, from G to A, a Tone minor; then again resuming A, as the Fundamental of the second Diatessamo, the Order is the same, namely, from A to B stat, a Semi-tone, from B stat to C, a Tone major, from C to D, a Tone minor. These Tetrachords remain virtually to this Day, and are admirably applied by Art to savour the Nature of the Singer's Voice, by adapting the superior Diatessamo to the middle Voices, and the inserior to the extreme; and thus, as we learn from Aristotle,* they might sing in Antiphoni, or Octaves: and if the Mese or middle Note (A) in their System, was of the same Pitch as in ours, then the most common Voices, Tenors in unison, and Trebles in the Octave above, could command both Diatessamos.

Music was now formed into a System that could not fail of being received with universal Delight; but at the same Time it varied, according to the Taste and Genius of different Provinces, into the Phrygian, Lydian, and Doric Modes, each taking its Colour from the Subject and Measure of Poetical Compositions. The Phrygian was of a harsh and warlike Nature; the Lydian, chearful but soft; and the Doric contained in it a Mixture of both. These, with many others which were afterwards invented in imitation of them, took their Place or Pitch in the System, according as they were of a grave or sprightly Nature, and occasionally succeeded each other in the same Song. In like Manner, with regard to Style, the Provençal and Venetian Music had in after-times their several Characteristics; and, to come nearer Home, even that of the Britons, Scots, and Irish, have had (if I may be allowed the Expression) an Idiom of their own.

It would be wide of my present Purpose to say more of the Chromatic and Enharmonic Genera, than that they are very ancient, distinguished from each other by the Intervals which constitute them, that is to say, by a Consecution of two Half and two Quarter Tones, and that they were soon neglected by the Greeks for their difficult Execution.

THE Diatonic Genus prevailed, with little Variation, till the Time of Pythagoras. This Philosopher, who lived upwards of 500 Years before Christ, and visited every Country bordering on the Mediterranean in search of Knowledge

and Science, discovered that the Grecian Scale would admit of very great Improvement. Accordingly, to some Additions which were before made, he introduced Bh into the Middle of the System, and, by extending it at the Top, compleated five Tetrachords, which stood as in the Margin.

To these he added an A at the Bottom, below Bly, as a Basis to the Whole; by which Means the Greeks became Masters of what we call the double Diapason, and nominated in Italy by the several Titles of Systema immutabile, Systema Diatonico, Systema Massimo, Systema Pitagorico. This opened an extensive Field for the Fancy to expatiate in quest of new and more various Melodies, but a close Attachment to nice Disquisitions in the scientistic Part diverted them from all such Pursuit; besides, the Magistrate, in some Places, was so watchful over their Music, that every Innovation was preciuded by Law.

Pythagoras is moreover considered as the Father of Harmonics; for though the Consonances, the most simple Part of Harmony, might possibly be discovered by the Ear very early, yet certainly we owe the Demonstration of their Ratios to him only: But without the Interchange of Discords, Concords must very soon cloy; and as the

Greeks never afterwards became acquainted with the Art of mixing these in Succession, the Contemplation of the Truth, Beauty, and Harmony arising from the Proportion of Chords, afforded a Pleasure to the Judgment and Understanding, distinct from that of the Ear.

Another very useful Improvement in Music was that of Notation, the Art of expressing Sounds by the Application of the Greek Letters, upright, oblique, inverted, mutilated. By these Characters, which amounted to above twelve hundred, were expressed the sisteen various Modes in each of the Genera, the Diatonic, Chromatic, and Enharmonic, as we have it transmitted to us by Meibonius, in a Piece of Alypius, intituled "Musica Introductio." However, it appears from the Writings of Aristoneus, that a Method of Notation was known in his Time, above four hundred Years before that of Alypius.

FROM what has been said, and from other Circumstances which might be adduced, if necessary, 'tis plain that their Song was a Kind of Recitative, simple, and consin'd in Compass, but full of Force and Expression.

Our principal Loss, or rather Disuse in ancient Music, is that Part of it called the Rhythmus, which they laid a

greater Stress and Value upon than the Harmonical.

To give a short Desinition of the Rhythmus, I would say, it is numerous Speaking and Singing. In a more general Sense, it was often understood to be a sweet Flow of Words and Sounds, which gained assonishing Force, by a just Disposition in Measure, Accent, Emphasis and Pause, heighten'd with correspondent Gestures, to excite, augment, or allay the Passions.

4th. \begin{cases}
g \\ f \\ e \\ d \\ c \\ Bb \end{cases} 3d. \\
2d. \begin{cases} A \\ G \\ F \\ E \\ D \\ C \\ Blq \end{cases}
\text{ift and lowest Tetrachord.}
\end{cases}

Upon the Declension of the Roman Empire, and Commencement of Christianity, Music took refuge in the Church, where she met with her truest Advocates and best Support. We are told, Singing was established in it so early as the first Century; and even instrumental Music, if we may credit the Testimony of Justin Martyr, was introduced about A. C. 150. Others after him also speak of the same Practice, which was undoubtedly proper to support the Voices, and keep them in tune. The Nicene Creed was solemnly sung in the Churches at Rome, by Order of Marcus, the Bishop, Anno 336. In the Middle of the same Century, Flavianus and Diodorus, the one afterwards Bishop of Antioch, the other of Tarsus, exercised Antiphonal, or responsive Singing, in the East at Antioch. Under the Countenance of these, and many other Patrons, Church Music spread itself throughout the Christian World; and by the Cultivation of St. Ambrose, Bishop of Mulan, about 374, became still more enlarged; for he not only first ordained Antiphonal Singing in the Western Church, but laboured to compose an agreeable Melody for the Use of his Church, called the Ambrosian Chant, and formed four Modes or Species of Diapason, upon an equal Number of Greek Modes, for the suture Regulation of the Cantus. Modern Writers describe them by the following Scheme:

$$\mathbf{Firft\ O\&tave} \begin{cases} \mathbf{D} \\ \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{D} \end{cases} \qquad \mathbf{Second} \begin{cases} \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{D} \\ \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{E} \end{cases} \qquad \mathbf{Third} \begin{cases} \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{D} \\ \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{G} \\ \mathbf{F} \end{cases} \qquad \mathbf{G}$$

THESE Diapasons are evidently in the Diatonic Progression, but the sour lowest or final Notes have little Relation to our fundamental or Key Notes; and it does not appear that St. Ambrose had any Idea of that regular Series of Sounds which we call a Key, from its fixing the major second, sourth, sist and seventh, in the Octachord. Whether the Key is major or minor, is determined by the third, which always governs the sixth, and in a small Degree the seventh. But though all these are indeed essential to the Formation of a real Key, yet it is not necessary to establish it, that the Fundamental, with all its Concordances and Relatives, should be continually reiterated.

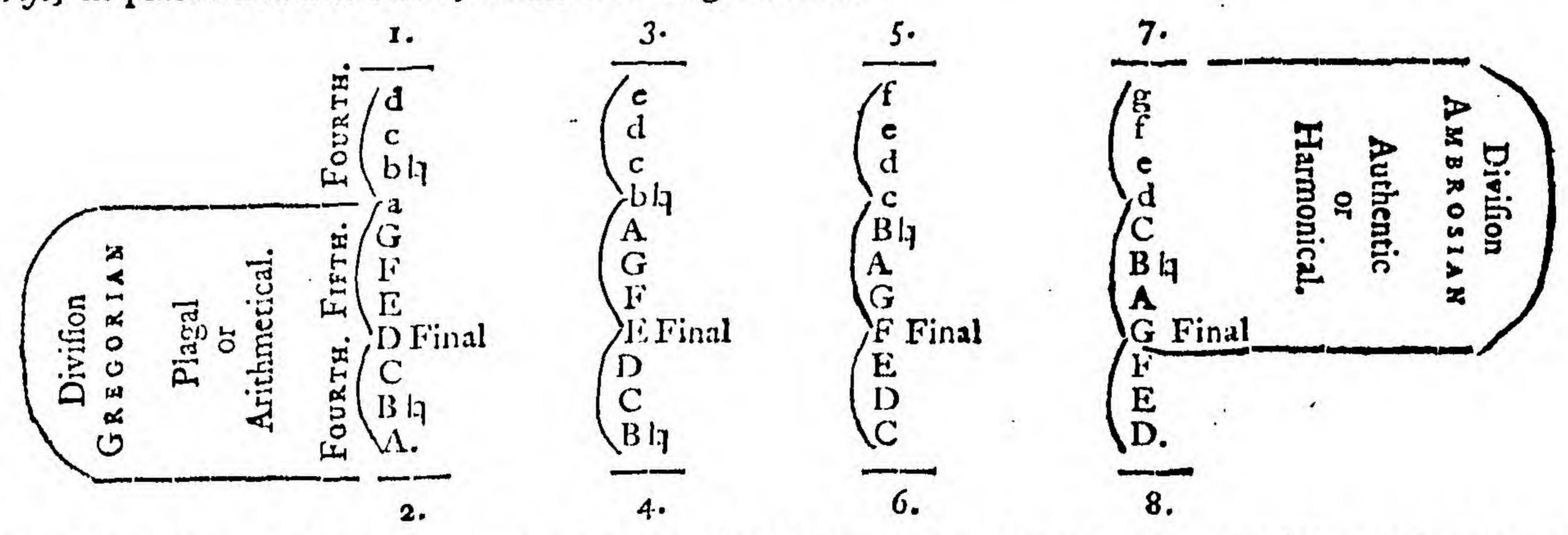
A flow and uniform Melody expressed by Notes of equal Duration, commonly called Plain Song, pervaded the whole Service; though some particular Hymns, not sung by the Congregation, were performed by the Cantores, composed

with a greater Variety of Tone, and, like the Greek Song, with some Freedom in Measure.

THE Church Song continued nearly in this State till Pope Gregory the Great, in the fixth Century, changed the Cantus by two confiderable Innovations. The former was his Reformation of the Scale, which is now in use all over the World; the latter, an Addition of sour ecclesiastical Modes or Tones to those of St. Ambrose. The Gregorian Cantus continues to be sung in the Roman Church, and some beautiful Traces of it remain to this Day in that Part of our

Cathedral Service, the Responses and Litany.

The literal Notation had before this Time been altered from the Greek to the Roman, and its Multifariousness reduced to a Dis-diapason, or two Octaves, under the Nomination of the First Fifteen Letters. Gregory perceived in this Diagram an Embarrassiment to the Learner; for the latter seven Sounds being merely a Repetition of the sormer in the same Series, only more acute, he gave them the same Names, distinguishing them in Writing by the small Character, thus, A. B. C. D. &c.; when intended to express the acuter Sounds of the second Octave, he mark'd a. b. c. d. &c.; which Method very much facilitated the Practice of Intonation. The sour Modes or Tones which he added to those of St. Ambrose, he placed a sourth below, in the following Position:



THE final Notes in each Formule were the same; and their Situation, either lowest or middle, with the varied Place of the one Semitone or the other in each Octave, constituted eight Species of Diapason. The superior sour, by having the Fourth above and the Fifth below, and the inferior, by having the Fifth above and the Fourth below, were said to be either harmonically or arithmetically divided, and received the Appellatives of Authentic or Plagal.

These

THESE eight Modes have been since branched out into more, by an harmonical or arithmetical Division of the different Species of Diapason, the Fifth or Fourth being always considered as the essential Note of Division: accordingly the Ambrosian Modes had all persect Fisths, the Gregorian all persect Fourths; the F Tone or Mode in the first having no persect Fourth, the B Mode in the second no persect Fifth.

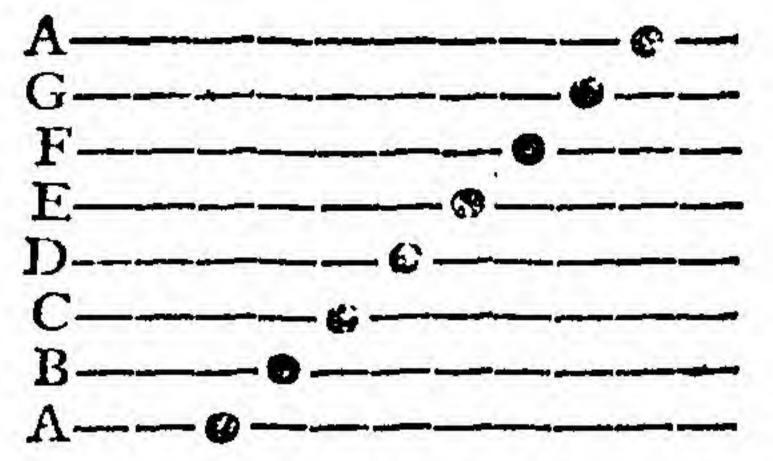
All this is particularly remarked, because Composers for the last 300 Years have, by changing the Situation of the Semi-tones, given us Compositions in a very different Style from the present, which is confined to the two most choice

Modes, namely, the major and minor Keys.

AFTER the Time of Gregory, to render the Method of Notation more concise, was invented the Stave, consisting of eight or ten Lines generally, and denominated by the Letters A.B. C. &c.

placed upon them in gradual Ascent, thus:

Next, to render this Method still more concise, Dots or Points were substituted instead of the Letters, which were placed only at the Beginning of the Lines, thus:



In the ninth Century, the Measure of Sounds, independent of Words, began to be represented by Dots, Commas, Accents, oblique Strokes, and other Marks. Antiphonaries, containing Examples of these, are preserved in the

British Museum, and other public Libraries. In this State continued Music to the Beginning of the eleventh Century, when Guido Aretino, a Benedictine Monk of Arezzo, a City in Tuscany, enlarged the Scale, and contracted the Method of Notation. The System he enlarged by adding another Note (G) under the lowest in the Greek Scale, the fundamental of which was A. and proceeding by Hexachords, or Intervals of Sixths, extended its Compass to the Distance of two Octaves and a Fifth, containing six Hexachords; namely, from the lowest G. in our Bass Cliff to its Triplicate, and so on to D. upon the fourth Line in our Treble Stave, which carried him four Tones into a third Octave. The Hexachords then stood as in the Margin.

ANOTHER Hexachord is generally added a Tone higher, arising from g. the second Line in the Treble Cliff to e. the fourth Space; but several ancient manuscript Diagrams have it not, probably because it was a Triplication of the lowest Hexachord, and the highest

Note above the natural easy Reach of a Boy's Voice.

He contracted the Stave by suggesting the Use of the Spaces between the Lines; by

these Means he reduced eight or ten Lines to half those Numbers.

A third Advance he made was in the Art of Solmization, substituting these six Syllables, Ut, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, in place of the fix Letters each Hexachord contained, or, as a French Writer * says, after the Example of the Greek, Te, Ta, Thé, Tho. By these Nominations, if a Person could intonate rightly the Intervals of one Hexachord, he might the rest, being all alike, only transposed a Fourth, Seventh or Octave higher. His Design in this Scheme was to impress strongly upon the Mind the Place of the Semitone, which in his Senary lay in the Middle.

bb b 6th. First Hexachord.

Music, with all these Improvements, still continued very plain. In the Church, the Cantus, long and solemn, accompanied also with very simple Harmony, by an Organ of about twenty Notes in compass, was performed, very different from that of the Minstrels,† who sung short returning Airs to a Harp of seven, eight, or nine Strings, or a small ill-shaped Fiddle with four or five, and a very short Bow: And that such were their Instruments in this Country, appears from antique Drawings and Carvings still extant.

THAT our Melodies received a Sweetness from the Provençal, under the Favor of Richard the First, who was fond of them, is probable. One elegant Specimen of their Song is left us by Theobald, King of Navarre, who flourished about

1235 .- See Sir J. Flawkins's Hift. of Music, Vol. II. p. 47.

We have said that the Greeks distinguished their musical Notes by the Letters of their Alphabet in disserent Modisications and Combinations to an almost incredible Number, which must render them extremely intricate to the Scholar, These we have likewise observed were contracted by the Romans, and confined to the first sisteen Letters of their Alphabet, which were afterwards again reduced by Pope Gregory to seven. After his Time, as the Letters went out of use, various were the Modes of expressing Sounds, by Commas, Points, oblique Strokes, &c. which, about fixty Years after Guido's Regulations, began to give way to different Characters. With others of greater Length, the following were in common

* Distinuaire de Musique, par J. J. Roussiau, under the Article SOLFIER.

4 We are obliged to the Reverend the Dean of Carliste son a very circumstantial Account of these Men, in his "Reliques of ancient English Poetry."

PREFACE.

use, viz. the Large thus []; the Long thus []; the Breve thus [], and the Semi-breve in this Form []; which was the shortest Note, till the Minim, thus [], was introduced early in the 14th Century. These stood in a triple Proportion to each other; indeed, they had such an extraordinary Attachment to ternary Proportion, that very sew Compositions are to be sound, before the Commencement of the 16th Century, in duple or common Time.

As Music ran into quicker Divisions of Sounds, shorter Notes were invented to express them. Hence sprung the Crotchet about the Year 1400, Quaver 1450, and Semiquaver 1500. The first Appearance of the Demisemiquaver seems to be in a Treatise intituled Bellum Musicale, published at Mentz, in Germany, in 1563, when the Breve had gradually given way to the Semibreve; and though it continued in use, yet the Semibreve was from thencesorth considered as the Integer, because the Measure was denoted by its fractional Parts, such as Halves, Quarters, Half-Quarters, &c. expressed by Figures at the Head of the Stave, viz. \(\frac{3}{4}\), \(\frac{3}{6}\), \(\frac{3}{6}\). to imply that each Bar was compounded of three or more such Parts of the integral Semibreve. But though the Demisemiquaver was known or invented in Germany about A. C. 1563, yet (at the Close of the last Century) Bontempi and others give it as uncommon; and in a Spanish Treatise on Music, published in 1734, by Joseph de Torres, Organist in Madrid, it is not mentioned.

THE Cliff (from the French Clef) originally was no more than a Letter prefixed at the Inception of the Piece on some Line or Space, as a Datum to proceed upon; the Name of that Line (or Note on that Line rather) being known, the rest would follow of course: not calling it a Key in the modern Sense of the Word, meaning that it pointed out the substantial or governing Tone of the Cantus, to which all the others had a Tendency and Direction; but merely

an Induction to the Knowledge of each Line and Space.

ABOUT 1300, when red Notes began to be employed, musical Signs of Time or Measure were invented; they were only two primarily, viz. 0 6, perfect and imperfect, before which the Long and the Breve, or their Rests, denoted

the Measure.

The Discovery of the Consonances was eventually the Root of harmonical Modulation; but it was of flow Growth, and long in gathering Strength, not increasing to any Magnitude till the fifteenth Century. There is Reason to believe finging in Consonance was first practised in the northern Parts of this Country near Durbam, at the Monastery of Wiremouth in the Kingdom of Northumbria, the Seat of Music and Learning about 700. This Supposition is founded on two Circumstances: The one is, that in the Writings of Venerable Bede, who resided there at the above Time, mention is made of the Word Descant, which implies a high Voice dividing or singing in quick concordant Notes, while a Tenor or low Voice is prolating the Ground or plain Song: The other is, that Giraldus Cambrensis, in the 12th Century, describes the same Practice, as being an extempore Performance habitual to those People in the North, living on the Banks of the Humber; yet the Fauxbourdon or Faburden seems to be their chief Practice and highest Delight in the 14th Century, which is little more than a Medius or mean Voice singing in 3ds, and a Discantus or treble Voice in 6ths, all along upon a Canto Fermo sung by a Tenor or Bass. In this Century, Attempts were made to intermix Discords with Concords, but being abrupt and unprepared, they were inveighed against by contemporary Writers, as a rude unpleasing Intrusion; it nevertheless was a Step which led to a very great Improvement.

ABOUT the Year 1300, it was discovered that Modulation might be much enlarged by the Admission of more Semitones into the Scale. These new Sounds were denominated Fista Musica, or feigned Music, and consisted at last of

all the Half-tones not in the ancient Diatonic Series of Notes.

The B flat, which we have already observed had been placed in the System by Pythagoras, was very efficacious in Guido's Scale, and highly extolled by a Writer † in the 12th Century, as then giving Birth to the sweetest Modulations upon the Harp. The F sharp was known early in the 14th Century, the C sharp and E slat early in the next, and towards the Close the G sharp, as may be seen in a Manuscript, said to be as old as the Reign of Edward the Fourth, in the Pepysian Library at Cambridge, ‡ which contains some of the most ancient Scores possibly that are preserved, except one in the British Museum § on a Stave of thirteen, sourteen, and occasionally sisteen Lines, with something like an Organ Bass at the End. In the following Pieces, A slat occurs but once, and that in a plaintive Style, in order to render the Music more expressive of the Words; and in all the first printed Music | on Metal Types, from 1503 to 1519, it does not once occur, as far as I have been able to observe. These seigned Sounds, at first new and unexpected, being nicely tried by the Judgment, and samiliarised to the Ear, were found to be rich and delicious.

In the 14th Century, many Struggles were made to form a just Standard for the proper Mingling of Discords with Concords; yet still, after every Essort, the Dissonancy of Sounds remained unresolved. At length the Moment arrived which crowned their Labours with Success; for about 1400 (as may be seen by the sirst Song in the following Collection) the Preparation and Resolution of Discords were discovered: An Art that had the Power of reconciling even Discordance

to the Ear.

The Reader will naturally expects to be informed of the Tradition and Characters of the following Compositions. The Manuscript from whence all the English Songs, except the first, are extracted, originally belonged to Doctor Robert Pairfax, (who lived in the Reigns of Henry the Seventh and Eighth) as evidently appears from a Drawing of his Arms, and the express Signature of his Successor, 1610. This Manuscript, which Anthony Wood takes particular Notice of afterwards sell into the Hands of Mr. Thoresty.** The Characters in which these Pieces are written, are something different from those in common when the Art of printing Music with Metal Types was invented: They

Hift. of Wales.
† Giraldus Cambrensis.
† No. 1236.
† Bib. Harl. No. 978.

| The Patent assixed to some of these Publications being carious and a known, I have subjoined a literal Translation of it: the Original may be seen in the British Museum.

consist of Longs, Breves, Semibreves and Minims; which two last are occasionally black and red, without any void Notes. The Intention of these colours was to denote their Duration, for Notes of a red Colour contained Half the Value of those which were black, consequently the Crotchet was expressed by a red Minim, and the Quaver by a red Crotchet, which at that Time was distinguished by a Hook at the End, from whence it took its Name *: So that, in fact, the modern Quaver, in Point of Form, was anciently the Crotchet.

It may not be amiss to observe here, that when red Notes were disused, void Notes supplied their Place. Afterwards, in the 16th Century, void Notes became the longest, and black Notes were used in subordinate Proportions: but it was not till within the last hundred Years, that black Breves and Semibreves were entirely discarded, and the present Method

of Notation brought to a fixed Standard.

The first Song in the succeeding Collection is in many Respects curious, particularly in that it contains the earliest Example I have seen of the regular Preparation and Resolution of a Discord. It is printed from a manuscript Copy at the Head of a Collection of Ballads preserved in the Pepysian Library, Vol. I. Folio. This Manuscript, from its Title, appears to be an Exscript of one, "Ex Biblioth. Bodleiana, Arch. B. Seld. 10." The next Least contains the same in moderne Dresse, but so very impersect that it can hardly be called the same. An Ear which can judge from Nature will find it pleasing.

THE high Estimation had for such Melodies in Queen Elizabeth's Reign, is evident from the Duke's Speech in

Shake/pear's Twelfth-Night,

"Now, good Cæsario—but that Piece of Song, "That old and antique Song we had last Night;

"Methought it did relieve my Passion much, "More than light Airs, and recollected Terms, "Of these most brisk, and giddy-paced Times."

The second Song is a perfect Copy of a very popular Balet in its Time, written by Anthony Widville, the gallant but unfortunate Earl Rivers, just before his Execution in Pomfret Castle, 1483. The third, sourth, sifth and sixth Songs, are evident Compliments to Henry the Seventh and his Family. It might be conjectured that the Words in the sourch, "Gelosir gent or Rosemary," were well known to Harry Carey, Author of the Honest Yorkshireman, for one of the Songs in that Entertainment, "Why, how now, Sir Clown?" has the Burden of "Gillislow'r, gentle Rosemary."

All are distinguished for some peculiar Excellence; and two of the best French Pieces of the same Age, in two

very different Styles, are given with them, to contrast and variegate the whole.

No one will be furprized at finding *Windis*, Lews, ies, Words of two Syllables, or Beaute, Lady, and such-like Words, spelt and accented in a different Manner from the present Usage, if they recollect that Men naturally adopt the common Pronunciation and Orthography of the Age in which they live. The Prevalence of the French Language in this Kingdom, after *William* the Norman had seated himself on the Throne, easily accounts for the Accent falling so often on the last Syllable: But this was not universal, for in a very ancient Rota, Catch, or Canon, printed in the second Volume of Sir J. Hawkins's Hist. of Music, p. 93, it appears that the Saxon e had neither a long Time nor acute Accent in the Words Būcke, Cālve, wde, Lhūde, Awe. The French to this Day give a Sound or Note to the last Syllable, even of Words ending with e mute.

WITH respect to the Authors of the ensuing Songs, little remains except their Names and musical Characters, and of

some not even so much as their Name.

ROBERT FAYRFAX, of the Yorkshire Family of that Name, Sir J. Hawkins (to whom I am indebted for this and other Articles) in his Hist. of Music, Vol. II. informs us, was a Doctor in Music of Cambridge, and was incorporated of Oxford in the Year 1511. Bishop Tanner says he was of Bayford in the County of Hertford, and that he died at St. Alban's, where he was either Organist or Chanter in the Abbey Church, and lies buried therein.

Findund Turges, Composer of the fifth Song, was probably a near Relation to a Minstrel of the same Name; for in the Act of Resumption, 28th Hen. VI. there is a Proviso in favour of John Turges, Harpour with the Queen, for the Reversion of an Annuity of Ten Marks after the Death of Will. Langton, Minstrell. From a few Church

Compositions of his which remain, one might be led to suppose that he was a Member of some Cathedral.

JOHN MOUTON, Author of the fifteenth, was a Disciple of Adrian Willaert, and Mæstro di Capella to Francis I. King of France, who look'd upon him as one of the greatest Ornaments of his Court. By the Testimony of his Contemporaries, he was one of the greatest Musicians of his Age. The beautiful Fragment of his, in the annex'd Work, was printed in the Year 1519, by Ottavio Petruccio, at Fossombrone in Italy.—The Names and Compositions of these and other Composers in the above-mentioned Manuscript, occur in several Manuscripts near the End of the sisteenth Century.

THE peculiar Style of these Masters makes it necessary to be a little more particular in the Explanation of the modern

Doctrine of Modes, which have their Merit, whether more or less valuable than the Greek.

The Spirit of Enquiry concerning the Greek Genera and Modes, from the Year 1450, occasioned those who studied Music to imicate in their Productions as far as possible the ancient Modes; and accordingly, a Composition in the Key of A. was said to be in the Dorian Mode, in the Key of D. the Phrygian, and so on. To strengthen this Idea, they preserved one or two Tones out of the usual Series of Sounds in the major and minor Keys, corresponding with some of the Ecclesiastical Modes, by which they modulated, and by making them predominate, coloured their Compositions and diversisied their Style; for, with them, it was not so much the Pitch or Key-note, as the Position of the Semitones

in the Octave, which constituted the Variety of Modes. The major Key they considered as perfect, the Clymax and Anticlymax of Sounds in that being uniform, the third bold and pleasing. The minor Key was thought imperfect, not so much on account of the Difference in the ascending and descending Scale, as because of the heavy Essect of the lesser Third, which in their Compositions was often omitted, or sharpened at a full Close. The Variety which this very Impersection afforded in the slat Key, gave great Scope to the Imagination: Other Associations were formed; and it seems as if our earliest Writers, both in Melody and Harmony, observing the various Situations of the two Semitones in each of the

ecclesiastical Modes or Species of Diapason, thought them equally useful with those in the slat Key.

As they divided and subdivided very minutely the duple and triple Measures, so they improved the old System by the Introduction of what were called feigned Sounds. These were employed in giving new Qualities to their Keys or Modes. By their means they could imitate the seven or eight primitive Modes in any Pitch; they could alter and diversify them at will, and still preserve their Key. This was done sometimes by taking the slat Seventh only; of which Mode many antique Melodies and rich Pieces of Harmony, particularly that Madrigal of Orlando Gibbons, "The Silver Swan," are beautiful Examples.* In the minor Key, the sharp Sixth was sometimes combined with it.—Another Property of the minor Key, very common with our early Harmonicians, was that of blending the slat Second and Seventh in the same Composition.

WITH what Force and Elegance so crude an Interval as the sharp Fourth and flat Seventh may be used, Dr. Blow's Service in G. is a noble Instance. These and other Modes were used occasionally with so much Grace and Delicacy,

that Men of the finest Understanding and Taste have confess'd their Power.

Mr. Purcel has been heard to declare more than once, that the Variety which the minor Key is capable of affording, by the Change of Sounds in the ascending and descending Scale, induced him so frequently to give it the Preference; and this Variety seems to have tempted some, even after him, to continue the Practice of the Mode-Style. In the

Church Service particularly, the Solemnity and Dignity of this Style should never be lost.

It is remarkable that all our earliest Dance and Song Tunes, whether the grave, rough and bold British, the tender, wild and airy Scotch, or the mix'd Irish, are characterised by their Assinity to those Modes believed analogous to the Greek. Notwithstanding this, they are now so little known and practised, though uniformly admired and supported by very learned Writers, and the ablest Practitioners of this and some Centuries, namely, Handel, Geminiani, Aldrich, Tallis, Tye, Palestrina, &c. that many think them strange and novel.

DID we but search for, study and imitate the valuable Remains of Antiquity, we should certainly be the more disposed to make proper Acknowledgments to our Ancestors, by improving upon their Industry and Attention: For as the Knowledge in Literature, Painting, or Architecture, of him who is conversant only in modern Compositions, must ever remain slender and confined, so must that of the Musician; he will be of an undiscerning Ear, incompetent

Judgment, and vitiated Taste.

In Music, as in every Thing else, Art carried into Excess becomes vicious and destructive, whether by labouring after extraneous, complex and obscure Modulations, as some of the Ancients did, or, as some of the Moderns do, by running into extravagant Levities of Air. But the venerable Pieces of Antiquity in the present Collection seem so far out of the Reach of this Censure, that, for Purity of Harmony and Chastity of Melody, I should hope they will be read and heard with Approbation and Pleasure.

^{*} See the first annual Collection of Catches, Canons and Glees, published by Mr. Warren.

† Some of these are preserved in the Collections of Catches, Canons and Glees, published by Mr. Warren.

The PATENT subjoined to some Publications of OTTAVIO PETRUCCIO, PRINTER.

LEO X. POPE.

ELOVED Son, Health and apostolical Benediction. Having lately given us to understand, that, during your Residence at Venice, by your Application and Ingenuity, you first discovered the Method of printing figured Song; and whereas our beloved Sons, the Doge and Senators of the Serene Republic of Venice, have granted you the exclusive Privilege of printing the same, as the Inventor, forbidding any Person whatsoever within their Jurisdiction, under certain Penalties, either to print or vend any other but your's, for the Space of Twenty Years; and having also informed us, that lately, on your Return to your native Country, Fossonbrone, and intent on new Discoveries, by great Labor, Expence and Course of Time, you first invented the Method of printing Organ Scores, which had been hitherto attempted by several eminent Men, as well in Italy as other Countries, and given up as impracticable, and which adds greatly to the Dignity of Divine Worship, and proves a Help to those who are desirous of improving in Music; and that you are inclined to print several Books on different Subjects, which never hitherto appeared in Print in your Country, or in any other, directly or indirectly, subject to the Jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical State: We, disposed to favour your Petition, and willing that you, as the Inventor and the first Printer of the same, should enjoy the Privileges annexed to our Apostolic Indulgence and Leave, provided you vend the same at a moderate Price, and in order effectually to prevent other Printers from reaping the Advantages of your Labor and Expence, and that we may encourage you to attempt Discoveries of greater Moment, we, in Consideration of your being the Inventor and first Printer of the same, forbid other Printers and Booksellers to print or vend any Organ Scores within Fifteen Years, or any other Books on other Subjects which you have already printed or mean to print (not hitherto published by any other Person whatsoever) within Fisteen Years from the Date of their first Publication, and that under the Penalty of Excommunication, with the Loss of their Books and Scores, and a Fine of four Ducats for each Book, to be equally divided, one Part for our Exchequer, a second to the Informer, and a third to the Inflictor of the Punishment: We moreover direct the Auditor of our Exchequer, and the Governor of our beloved City, Senators, Sheriff, and all other Persons acting in any official Capacity whatsoever within our Jurisdiction, both now and hereaster, to give you every necessary Assistance, when called upon by you or your Attorney, under the Penalty of an ipso-sacto Excommunication to any or either of them that may fail therein, infomuch that they are not to suffer you to be any ways impeded in the Execution of the Premises, but to terrify the Offenders by Ecclesiastical Censures, and the aforesaid Penalties; also to call in to their Assistance, if required, the Secular Power, in order the more easily to facilitate the Performance of all or either of the Premises, ordering at the same Time these our Letters Patent to be printed, and to hold full Force in our Courts of Judicature and elsewhere, no Person whatsoever to obstruct the Execution of the same, at their Peril.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, under the Seal of the FISHERMAN,* this 22d of October, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Five Hundred and Thirteen, being the first Year of our Pontificate.

PETER BEMBO.

To our beloved Son, Ottavio Petruccio, of Fossombrone.

* Il Pescatore is the Pope's Seal-Ring, the Device of which, I presume, has a Reference to St. Peter in his Character of a Fisherman. It is different from that wherewith the Bulls are sealed, which is a Cross supported by St. Peter and St. Paul. The Pescatore may perhaps not improperly be termed the Pepe's Pring Seal; and, to prevent any Abuse of it during a Vacancy in the See, it is immediately, on the Pope's Demise, broken in Pieces by the Cardinal Camarlingo (or Chamberlain) in the Presence of three other Cardinals.

OBSERVATIONS on the PLATE annexed.

I JUMBER 1. is taken from the Margin of a musical Manuscript, near 300 Years old, in Bibl. Reg. 20. A. 16.

British Museum. It contains French Songs by various Composers, Heyne, Bouvel, Josquin, &c. The Instrument in the Performer's Lap comes nearer to the Description of the Citole than any Thing yet given.

No 2. is probably a kind of Harp appropriated to the Female Minstrels of the 13th and 14th Centuries. The Original is to be found in the Margin of an ancient Copy of the History of Ireland, by Giraldus Cambrensis, 13. B. v111. Bibl.

Reg. Brit. Museum. Mr. Castey has mark'd it in the Catalogue XIIIth Century.

No 3. is an exact Copy of a Group of Figures playing and singing, taken from the Frontispiece to the Enchiridion, or Practica Musica, by Herman Finck, Chapel-Master to the King of Poland, published 1556. The Instruments seem to be the Sackbut or Bass-trumpet, and two Krum-Horns. One is led to suppose, that the principal Figure among

the other Parties is the Maestro di Capella, from his apparent Solicitude, and intended for Finck himself.

No 4. is an exact Copy from a Print at the Head of the Dedication of a Book of ancient French Madrigals, in the Possession of the Editor, published 1545, at Antwerp, by Thylman Susato. The Work is inscribed, in a prolix Copy of French Verses, to Mary Queen Dowager of Hungary, the Personage represented in the Back-Ground, as one may collect from the Form of the Escutcheon over her Head on the Cloth of Estate, though the armorial Ensigns are not discernible. The Queen seems to bear a Scroll in her Right-Hand, and to mark the Time or Measure with her Lest-Hand, and seems to be remarkably attentive.





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ORIGINAL WORDS of the SONGS.

SONG I.

WRE kynge went forth to Normandy, With grace & myzt of chivalry; The God for hym wrouzt marvelously, Wherefore Englonde may calle & cry

Deo gratias Deo gratias Anglia redde pro victoria.

2.

He sette a sege, the sothe for to say, To Harslue toune with ryal array; That toune he wan, and made a fray, That Fraunce shall rywe, tyl domes day.

Deo, &c.

3.

Then went owre Kynge, with all his Oste, Thorowe Fraunce for all the french boste; He spared 'for' drede of leste, ne moste, Tyl he come to Agincourt coste.

Deo, &c.

4

Than for sothe y' knyzt comely
In Agincourt feld he fauzt manly,
Thorow grace of God most myzty
He had both the felde & the victory.

Deo, &c.

Ther Dukys, and erlys, lorde & Barone,
Were take, & slayne, & that wel sone,
And some were ledde in to Lundone
With joye, and merthe, and grete renone.

Deo gratias, &c.

6.

Now gracious God he save owre kynge, His peple, and all his wel wyllynge, Gef him gode lyfe, & gode endynge, That we with merth mowe savely synge

Deo gratias Anglia reade pro victoria.

SONG II.

SUM what musying, & more morenying, In remembrying, ye unstedtastneis, this wordle beyng of fuch welving, me contrarying what may I gels; I fere doutless, reme yles, is now to cels my wofull chaunce; for unkyndness, withontenless, & no redress, me doth avaunce we displesaunce to my grevaunce & no luraunce of remedy, lo in this traunce now in substaunce fuch is my daunce willyng to uye.

Me thýnkýth trulý, bounden were I, & b' * gretly to be content, Saying playnly, Fortune doth wry all contrary, for myn entent; My lyff was lent to an entent, it is ny spent, well cum fortune; yet I ne went, thus to be fhent, but the it ment, such is her wone.

" Saxon pt for that.

SONG III.

THIS day day dawes this gentill day dawes we must home gone.

In a glorious garden grene
Saw I syttyng a comly quene
among the floures that fresh byn
she gaderd a floure & set betwene
the syly white rose me thouzt I sawe
& euer she sang this day day dawes
this gentill day dawes
& I must home gone

In that garden be floures of hew the gelosir gent p' she well knew the floure de luce she did on rewe & said p' whyzt rose is most trewe this garden to rule by ryzt wis lawe the lyly whyzte rose methought I sawe & ever she sang this day day dawes, &c.

SONG IV. For three Voices.

I Love I love & whom love ye?

I love a floure of fresh beaute,
I love another as well as ye;
Than shal be provid here anon,
yff we 3 can agre In on.

I love a floure of swete odour, magerome gentyll, or lavendour, columbyne goldis of swete flavour, nay nay let be, is non of them b' lykyth me.

I love I love, &c.

Ther is a floure where so he be, & shall not yet be namyd for me, prymeros, violet, or freish dayiy, he pass them all in his degre, b' best lykyth me.

I love, &c.

On b' I love most enterly, Gelosir gentill, or rosemary, camamyll, borage, or savery, nay certenly here is not he b, plesyth me.

I love, &c.

I chefe a floure freshist of face what is his name that thou chosyn has the rose I suppose thyn hart unbrace that same is he In hart so fre that best lykyth me nowe have I louyd & whom love ye I love a floure of fresh beaute I love a nother as well as ye Than shal be prouvid here anon yff we 3 can agre In on.

The rose it is a ryall floure
The red or the white shewe his colour
both be full swete & of lyke savoure
all on they be
that day to se
it lykyth well me
now have I loved & whom love ye
I love a floure of fresh beaute
I love another as well as ye
Than shal be prouvid here anon
yff we 3 can agre In on.

I love the rose both red & white, Is b' y' pure psite appetite, to here talke of them is my delite. Joyed may we be oure prince to se & roses thre now have we louv'd & love will we, This sayre fresh floure full off beaute, most worthy it is as thynkyth me; than may be prouvid here anon, that we 3 be agrede In on.

SONG V.

FROM stormy wyndes & grevous wether good lord preserve the estrige fether.

O blessed lord of henyn celestrall
which formyd hast of thy most speciall grace
Arthur oure prynce to us here terrestriall
In honor to rayne lord graunt hym tyme & space
which of alyaunce
oure prynce of plesaunce
be in crytaunce
of ynglond & fraunce
ryzt cyre for to be
wherfore now syng we
From stormy, &c.

Wherfore

Wherfore good lord syth of thy creacion is this noble prince of riall linage. In every case be his preservacion. With Joy to reiose his dewe energiaunce his ryzt to optayne. In honor to rayne this eyre of brytayne, of castell, & Spayne, ryzt eyre for to be; wherefore now Syng we from Stormy windes, &c. ut supra.

Now good lady among the Saynts all

Pray to the Sone the Secund In trinite
for this yong prince which is & daily shal be

Thy servaunt with all his hart so fre
O celestiall
moder maternall
emprise Infernall
now we crye & call
his save gard to be
Wherefore now Syng we

From stormy Wyndes, &c. ut supra.

SONG VI.

E Nforce yowrselse as Goddis knýzt to strenkyth your comýns In ther rýzt.

Soverayne lord In erth most excellent, whom god hath chose oure gyde to be, with gysses grete & evydent, of Marchiall power & also hye dygnite syth it is so, now lett your labour be Enforcyng yourselse with all your myzt to strenkyth your comyns In ther ryght.

God hath giff yow of his goodnyss Wisdome we Strenkyth & Soverainte all missone things to redress & specially hurts of becommynalte, which crye & call unto your matche; In your person all ther hope is pizt to have reconcr of ther unity.

Enforce, &c. ut supra.

SONG VII.

A Gentill Jhesu
Who is that that dothe me call
I a Synner that offt doth fall
what woldist thou have
mercy lord of the I crave
why lought thou me
ye my maker I call the
than leve thy Syn or I nyll the
& thynk on this lesson that now I teche the
a I will I will gentyll Jhesu

Uppon the Crosse nailed I was for the Suffyrd deth to pay thy rawnsum for sake thy Syn man, for the loue of me be repentant make playne confession to contryte harts I do remyssion be not dispayred, for I am not vengeable, gayne gottly enmys thynk on my passion, whi art b froward, syth I am mercyable A sentil these

My blody Wownds downe railyng be this tre loke on them well & haue compassion the Crowne of thorne be spere be nailis thre the percide hand & sote of Indignacion my hert riven for thy redempe on let now us twayne In this thyng be tretable loue for loue by Just Evencion Why art thou sroward syth I am merciable A gentill Jhesu, &c.

I had on petur & mawdelen pyte
for b' Strite of b, Stricion
Saynt tomas of Inds Incrudelite
he put his hands depe In my syde adowne
Role up this mater grave it In thi reson
Syth that I am kynde why art thou onstable
My blode best triacle for b' transgression
be not thou froward sith I am merciable
A Jentill Jhesu, &c. ut supra.

Thynk a gayne pride on my humilite

Cum to Scole, record well this lesson
gayne sals envy thynke on my charyte

My blode all spent by distillation;

Whi did I this, to save thee from prison.

Afore the hart hang this litell table

Swetter than hawme gayne gostly poyson
be thou not assraide, syth I am merciable

A Jentill Jhesi, &c. ut supra.

6.

Iord on all synfull here knelyng on kne
Thy deth remembryng of humble affection

O Jhefu graunt of thi benignite
That thy fyve wellis plentuous of fusion
called the fyve wonds by Eputacion
may washe us all from surfetts reprovable
Nowe for b' Moders meke mediacion
at hir request be to us merciable
A Jentill Jhesu, &c. ut supra.

SONG VIII.

WHO shall have my sayre lady?
who but I, who but I.
who shall have my sayre lady
Under the leays grene?
The sayrest Man
that best love can
Dandirly dandirly.
The sayrest Man
that best love can
under the holy grene.

SONG IX.

I Love, loved. & loved wolde I be,
In stedsast fayth & trouth with assurance;
Then bownden were I such on faythfully
to love, thowe I do fere to trace that dawnce;
Lest that mysaventure myzt fall be chaunce,
yet will I me trust to fortune applye
hough that euyr it will happ I wote nere I.

For SONG X. See page 45.

SONG XI.

MOST clere of colour & rote of stedsastness, with vertu conying her maner is lede, that passyth my mynde for to express; of her bounte beaute & womanhode.

The bryztest myrrour & sloure of goodlyhed, which that all men knowith both more or less, Thes vertues byn pryntyd In her doutless.

SONG XII.

Contracted by the Contracted by Contracted b

A Las for lak of her presens, whom I serve & shall as long, till deth my lift departe from hens; absens it is that wolde me wrong, & thus is the time of his Song; to gett mystrust is his entent, to send to her to make me Shent.

SONG XIII.

Complayne I may wher eugr I go,
Syth I haue done my besy payne,
to loue her best & no mo,
& she me takyth in gret disdayne:
I wis yet will I not me complayne,
tyll that I cum till her presens,
lest cause in me be found of offens.

SONG XIV.

To complayne me alas why shulde I so, for my complaynts it dyd me nevir good, but be constraynd now must I shew my woo, to her only which is my yes foode.

Trustyng sum tyme that she will chaunge her Mode & let me not allway be guerdonless, Syth for my troth she needyth no witness.

For SONG XV. See page 57.

SONG XVI.

THUS musying In my mynd gretly mervelyng, hough euyr such dyversyte In oon person may be;
So goodly so curtesly so gentyll In behavyng, & so sodenly will chaunge In every degre.

& so sodenly will chaunge In every degre. As solen as stately as strange toward me, as I of a quayatance had nevyr byn afore; wherefore I hope to synde a speciall remedy, to let it ouyr pass & thynk theron no more.

SONG XVII.

THAT was my Joy is now my woo & payne,

That was my blyss is now my displesaunce;
That was my trust is now my wanhope playne,
That was my wele is now my most grevaunce;
what causyth this but only yowre plesaunce,
onryztfully shewing me unkyndness,
That hath byn you faire lady & mastres;
nor nought cowde have wolde I nevyr so sayne,
my hart is yowrs with so gret assurance;
wherfore of ryzt ye shuld my gresse complayne,
& with pite haue me In remembraunce;
much the rather sith my suryd constaunce
wolde In no wise, for Joy nor heuyness,
have but youreselse fayre lady & mastress.

SONG I.

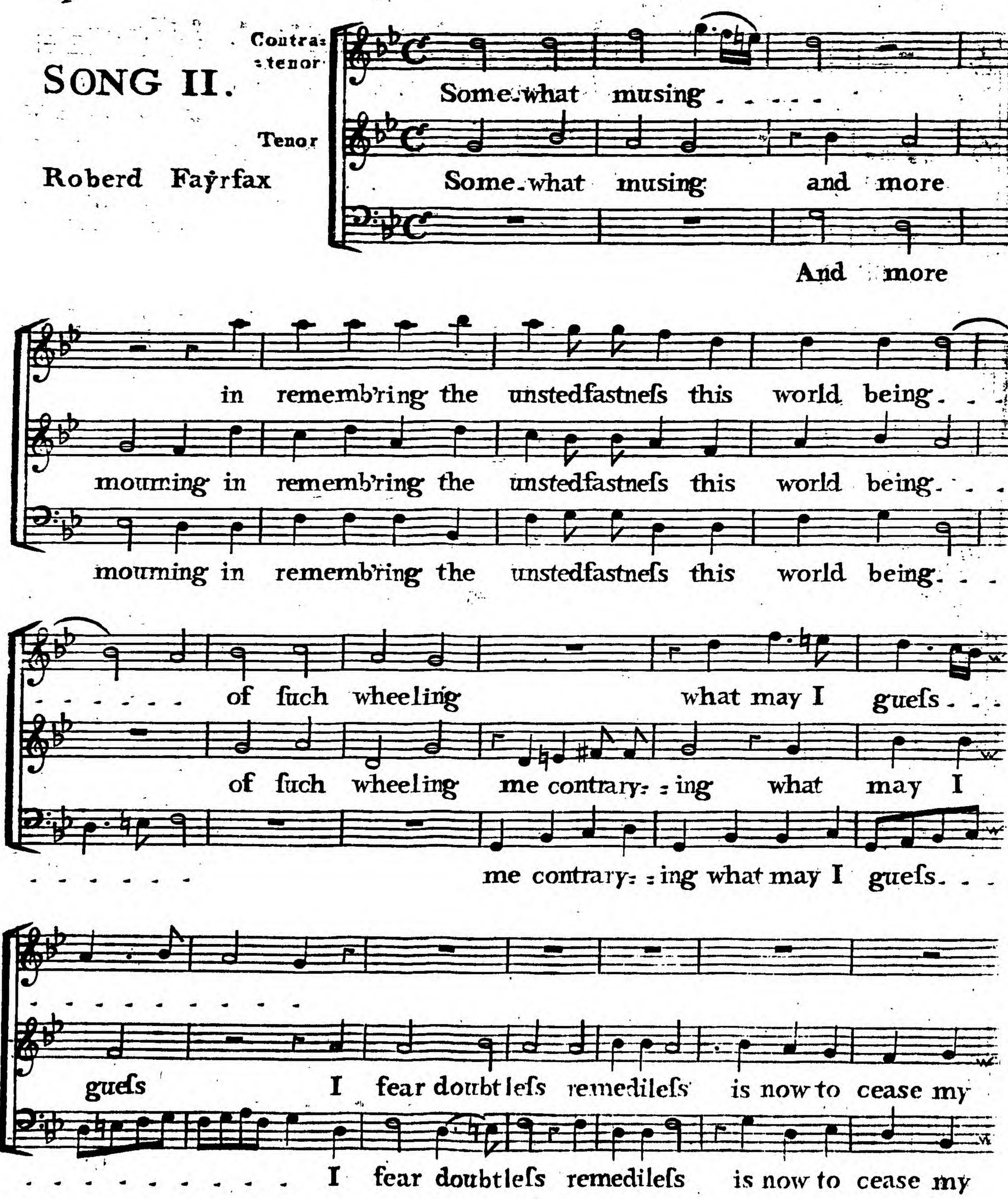
Composed for the Victory at Agincourt, A. D. 1415.









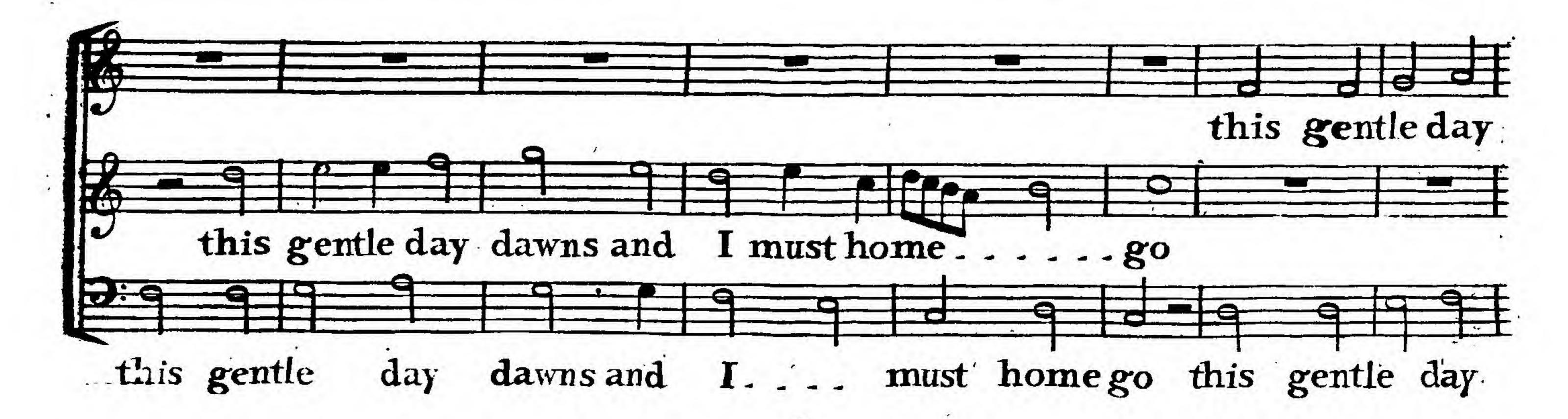


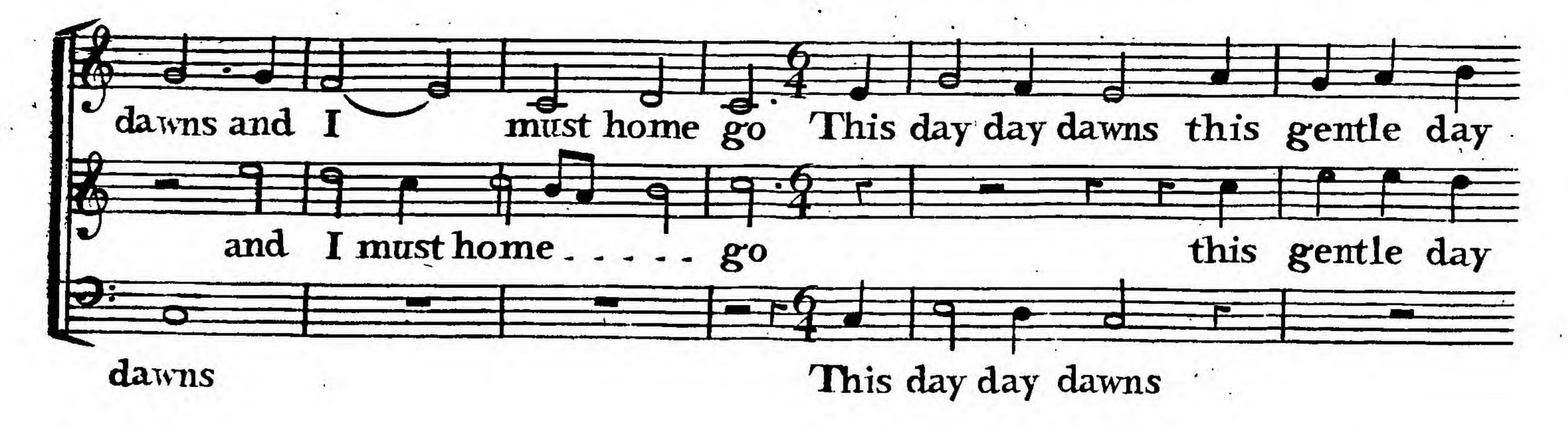


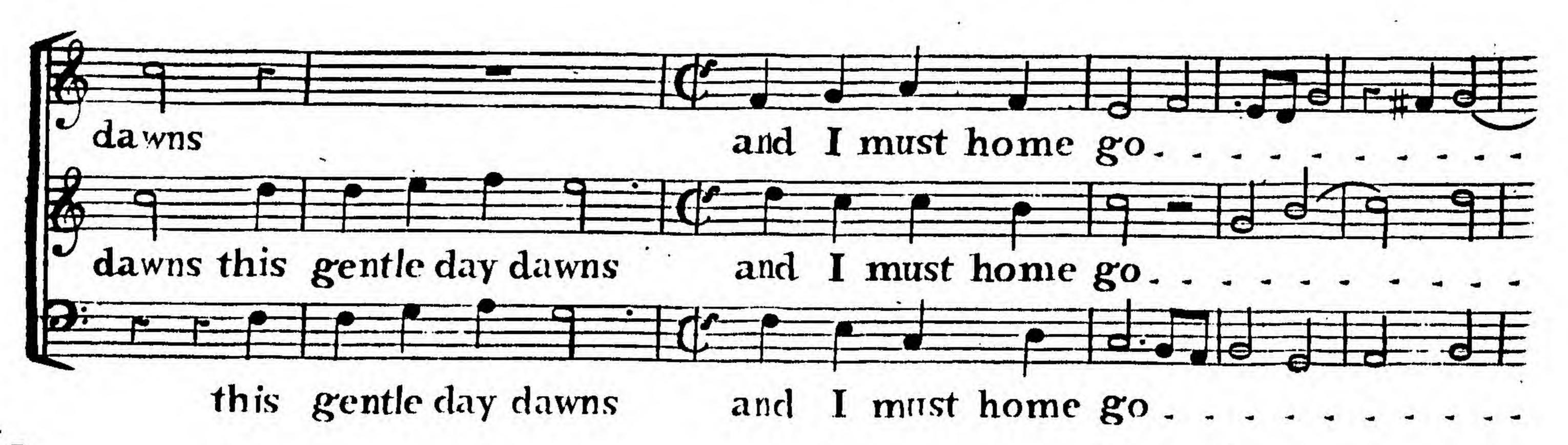




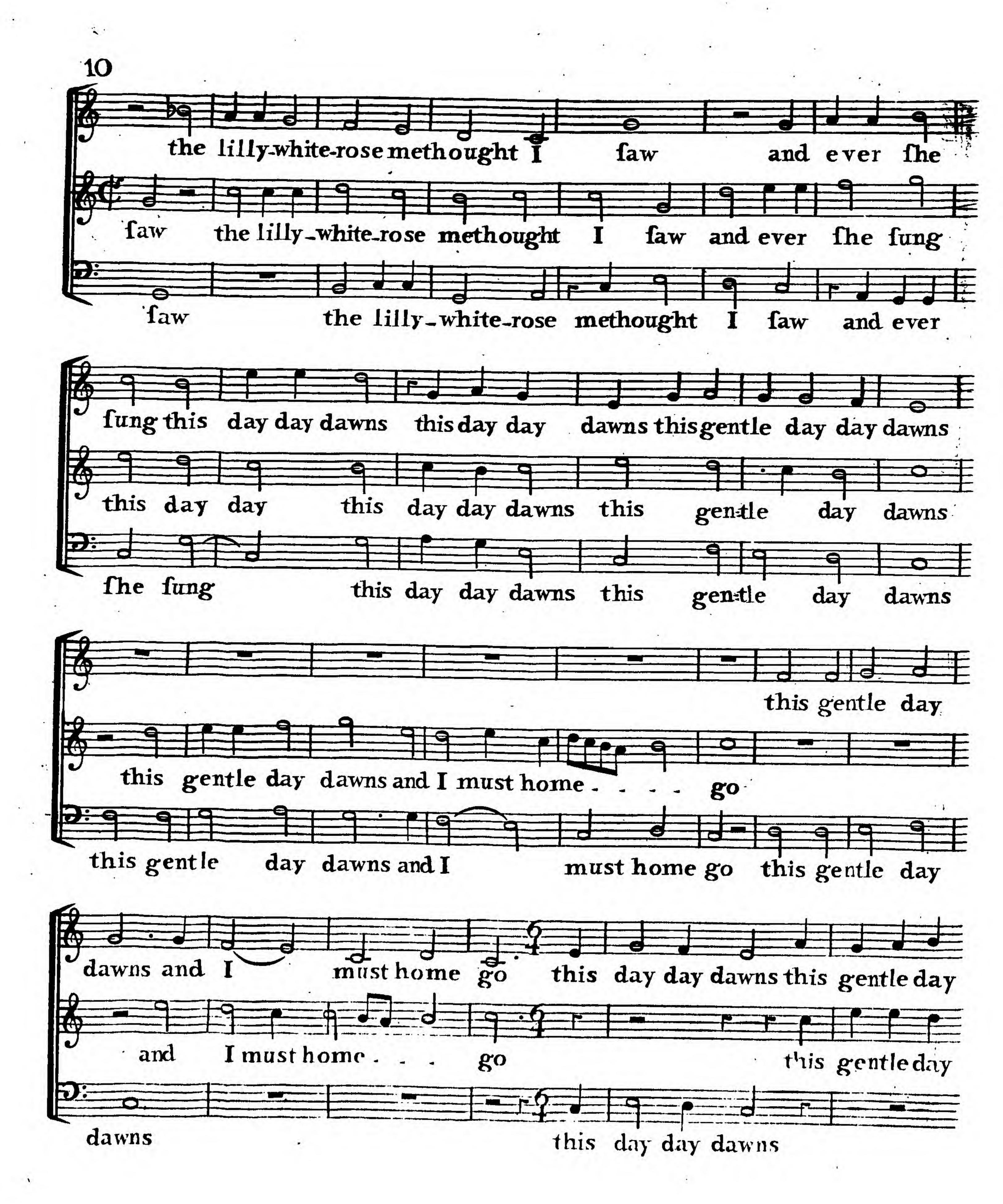




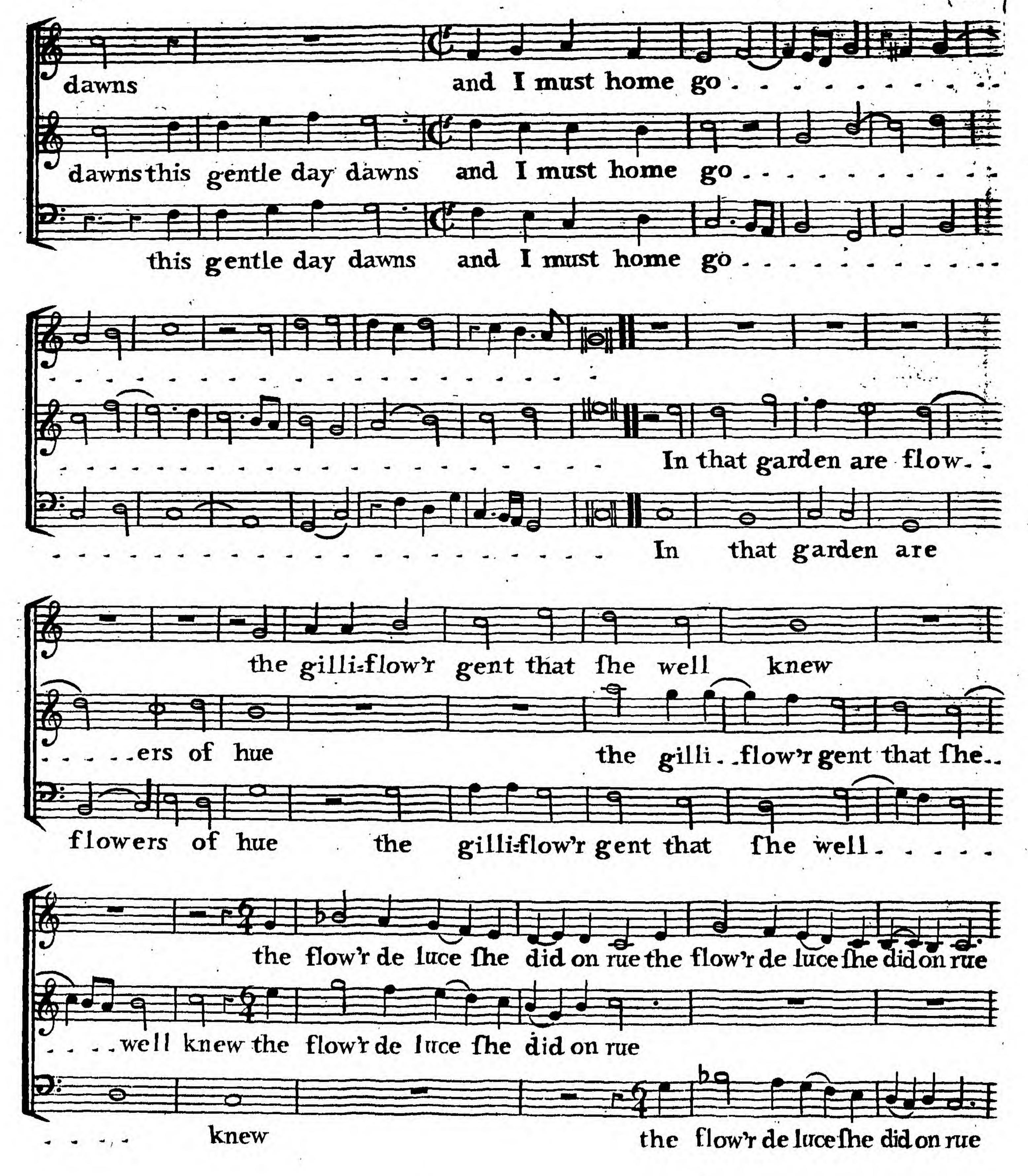


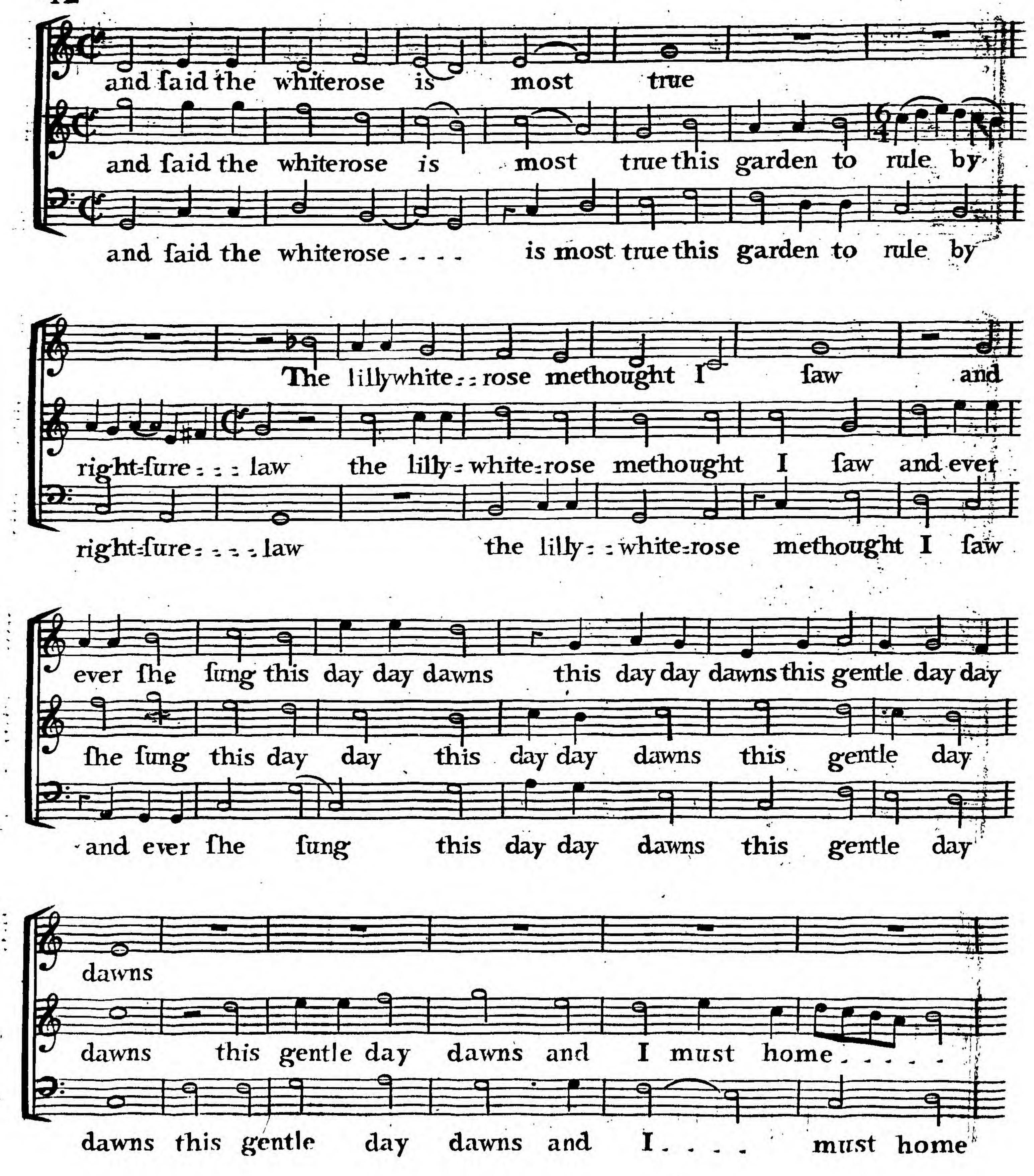


















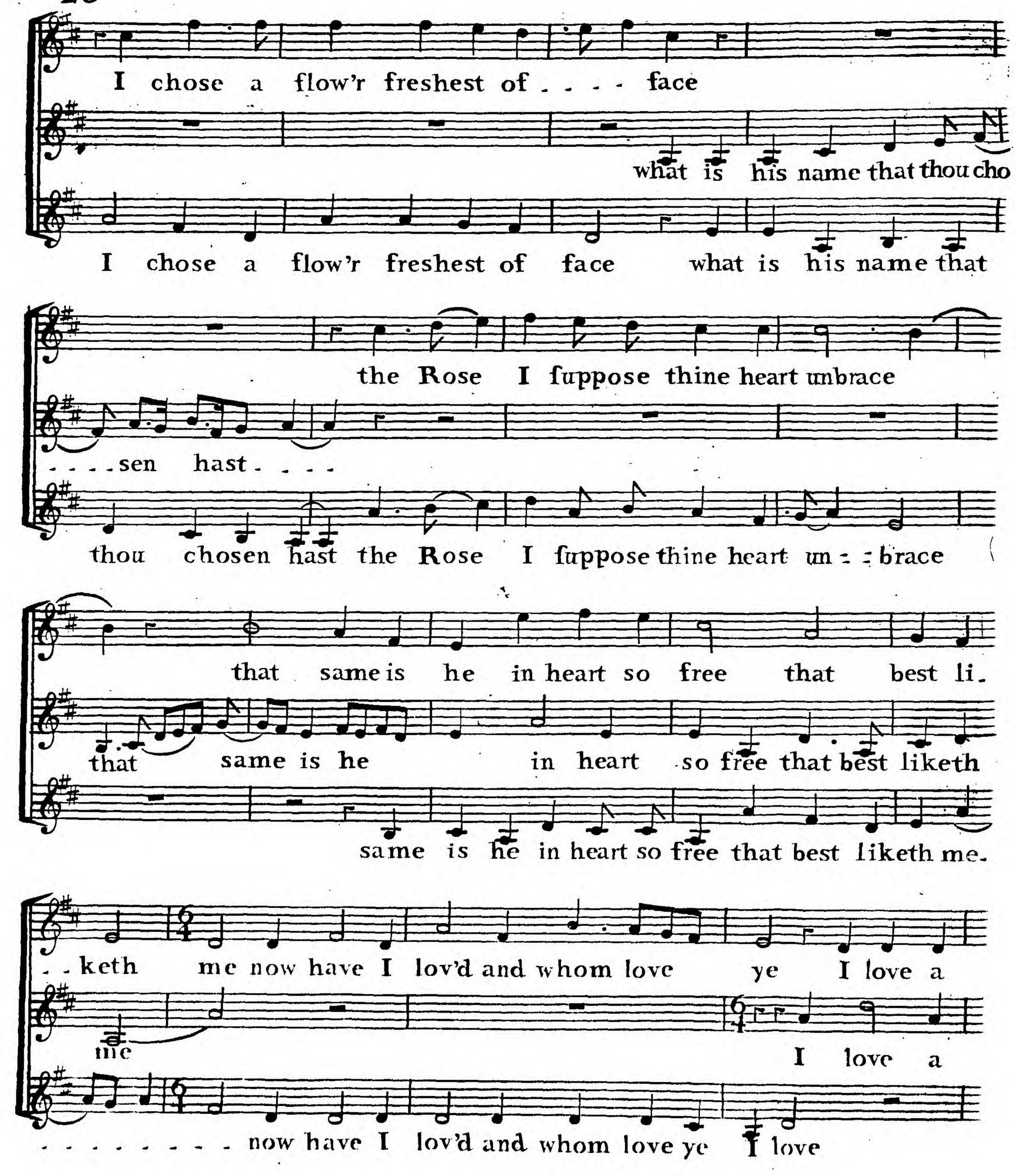










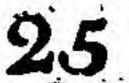




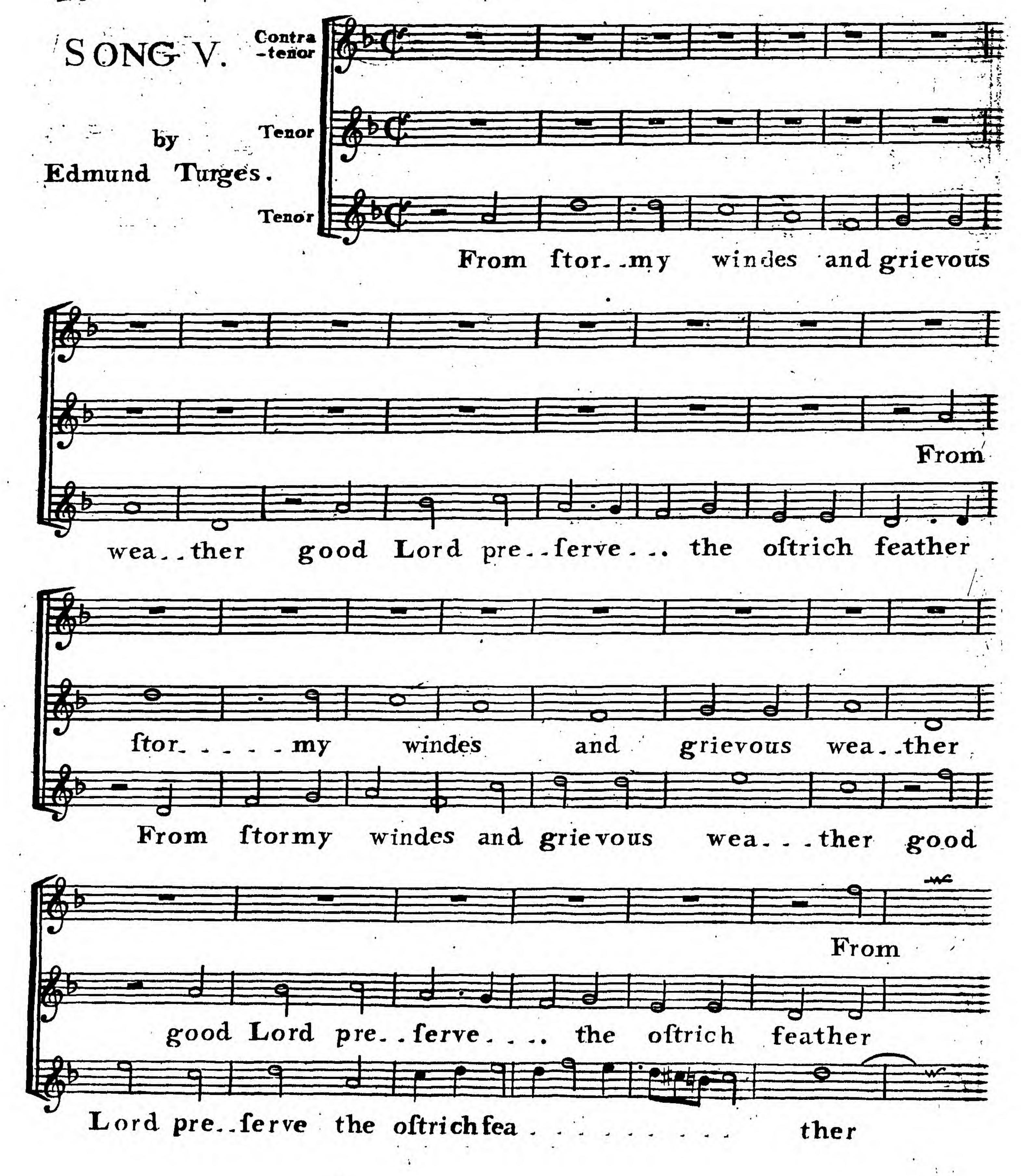


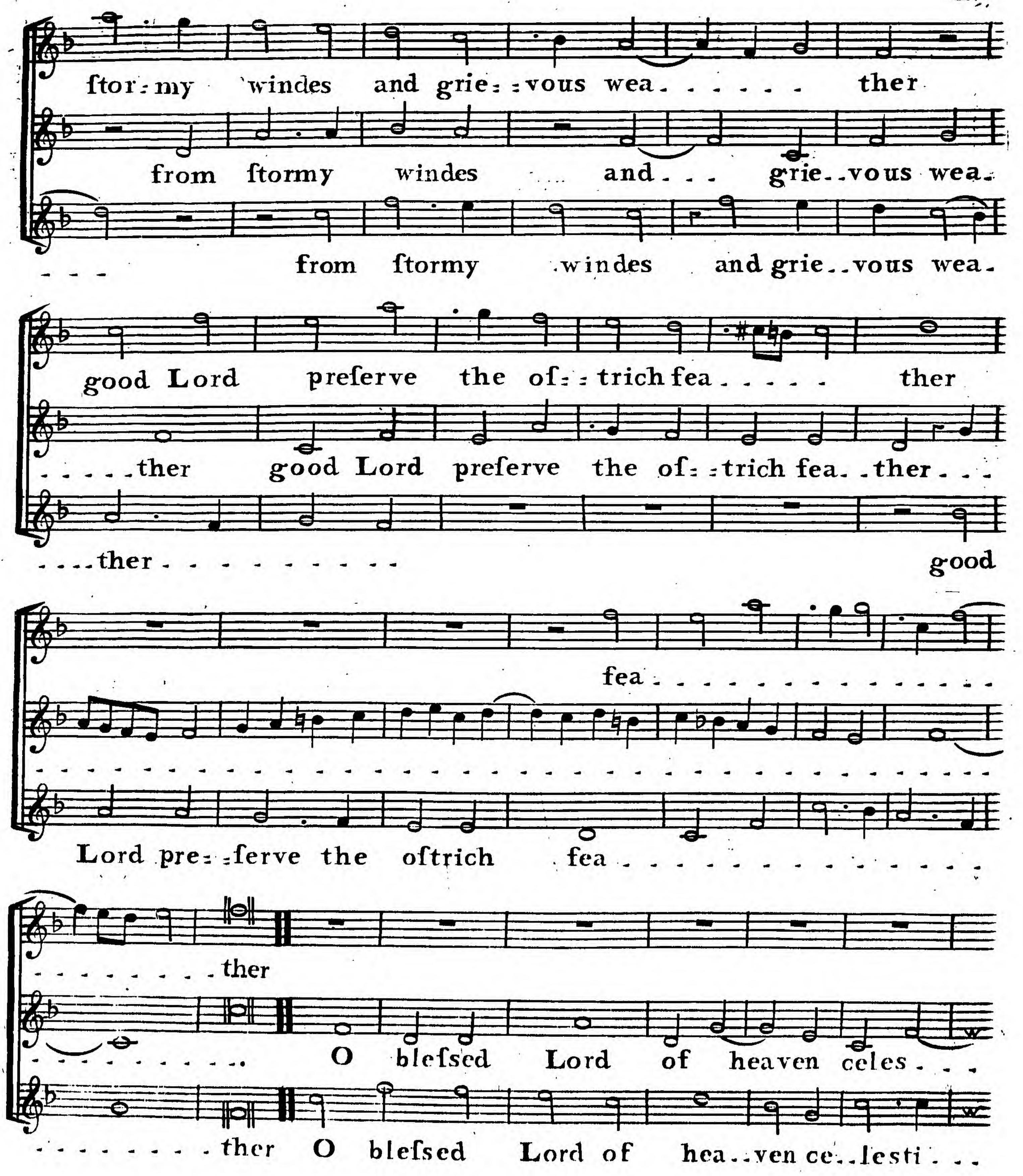


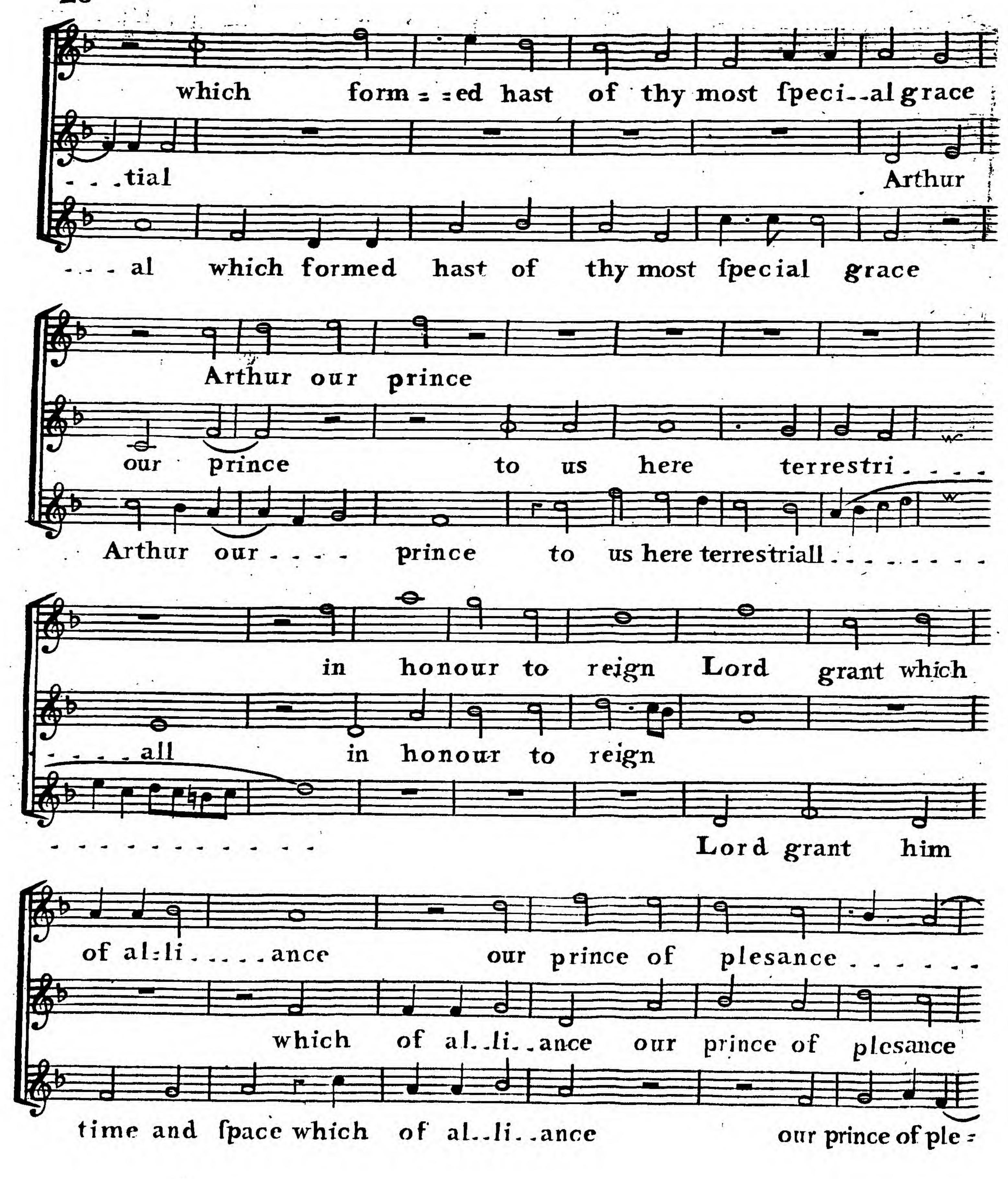




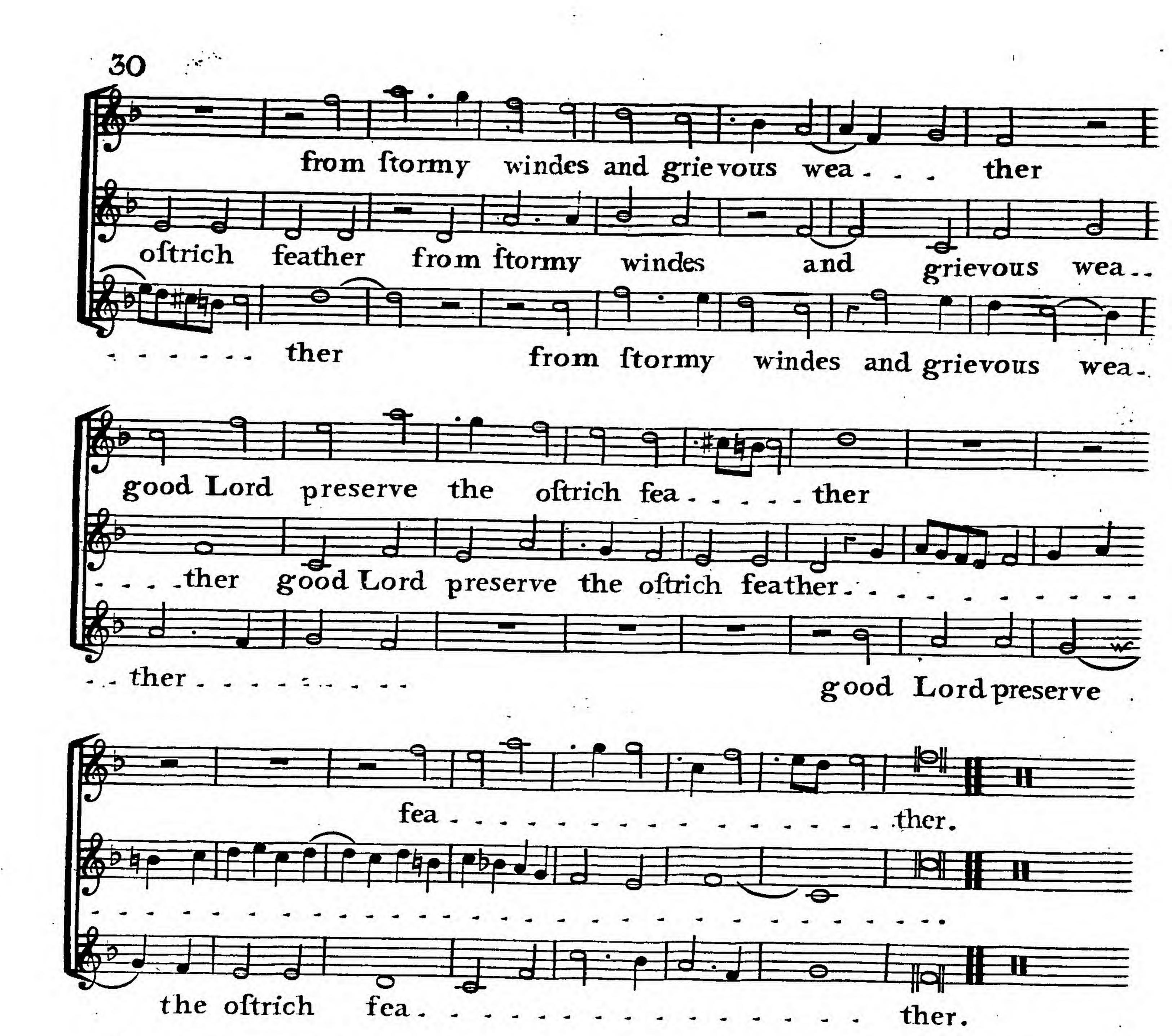










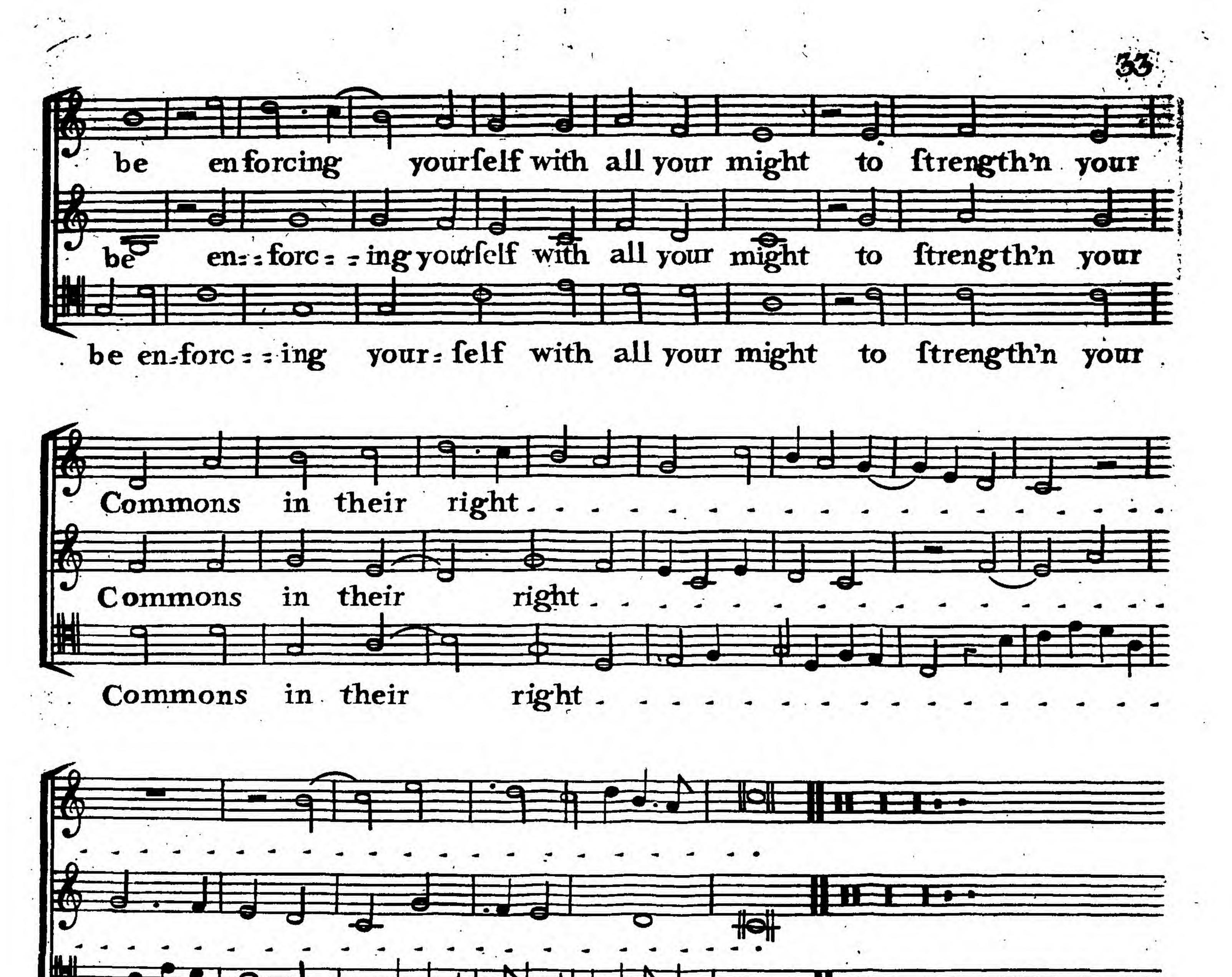


The following Verse goes to the latter part of this fong.

Wherefore good Lord fince of thy creation, Is this noble prince of royal lineage; In every case be his preservation, With joy to rejoice his due inheritance; His right to obtain, in honour to reign, This heir of Britain, of Castile, and Spain, Right heir for to be; wherfore now fing we, From stormy windes and grievous weather, Good Lord preserve the oftrich feather,

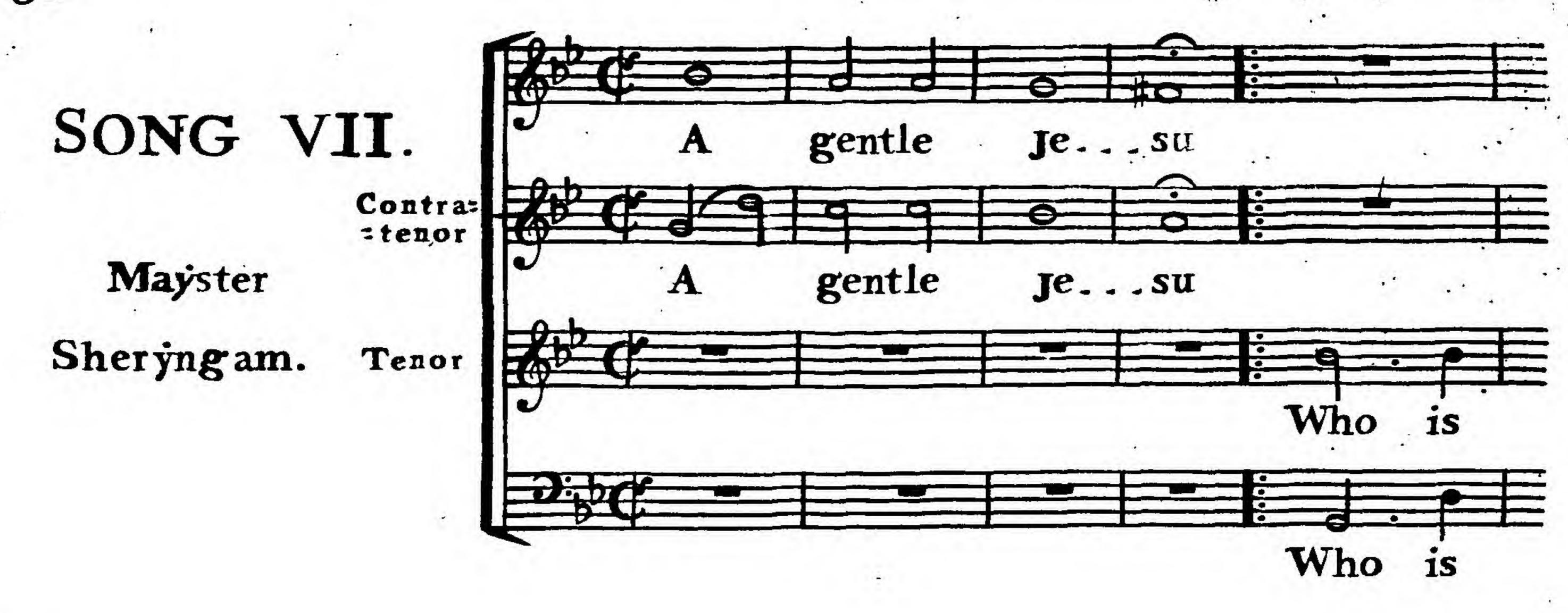




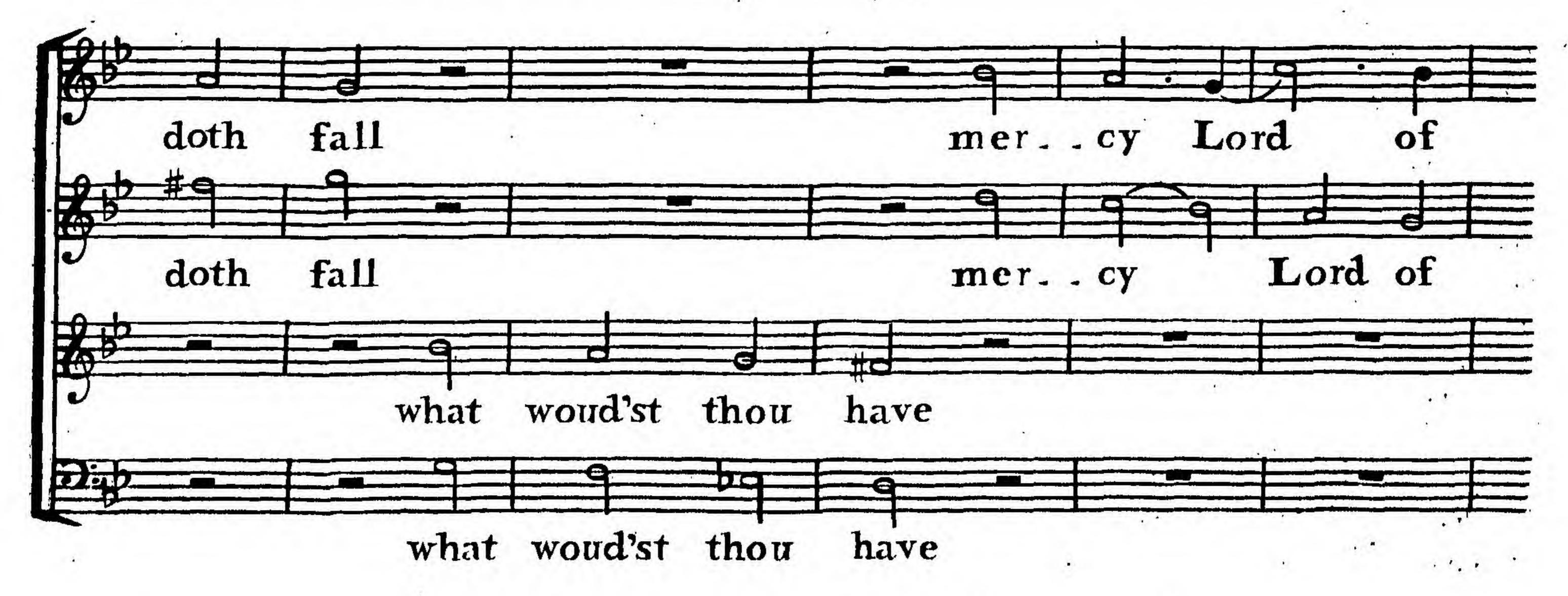


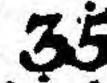
The following Verse is set to the second part of the song, and ends with the first.

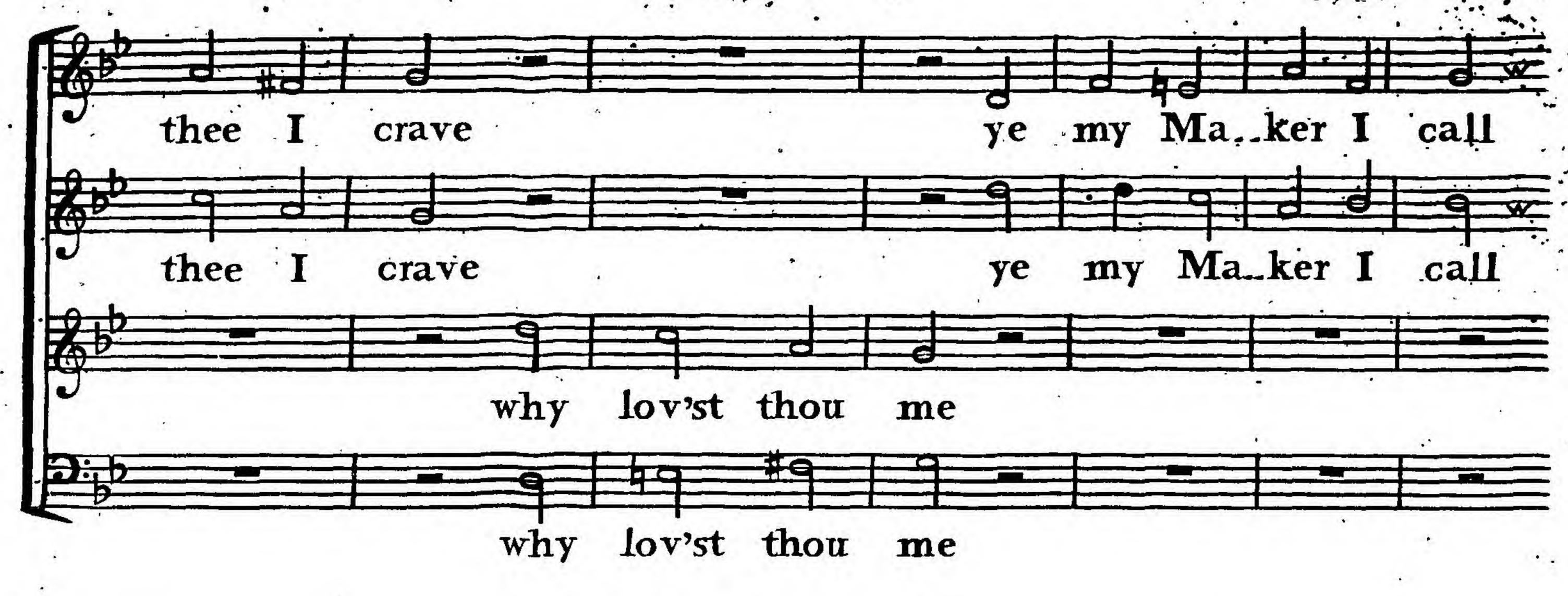
God hath giv'n you of his goodness,
Wisdom with strength and sovereignty,
All misdone thinges to redress,
And specially hurts of thy Comminalty,
Which cry and call unto your Majesty,
In your person all their hope is pight
To have recover of their unright. Enforce &c.

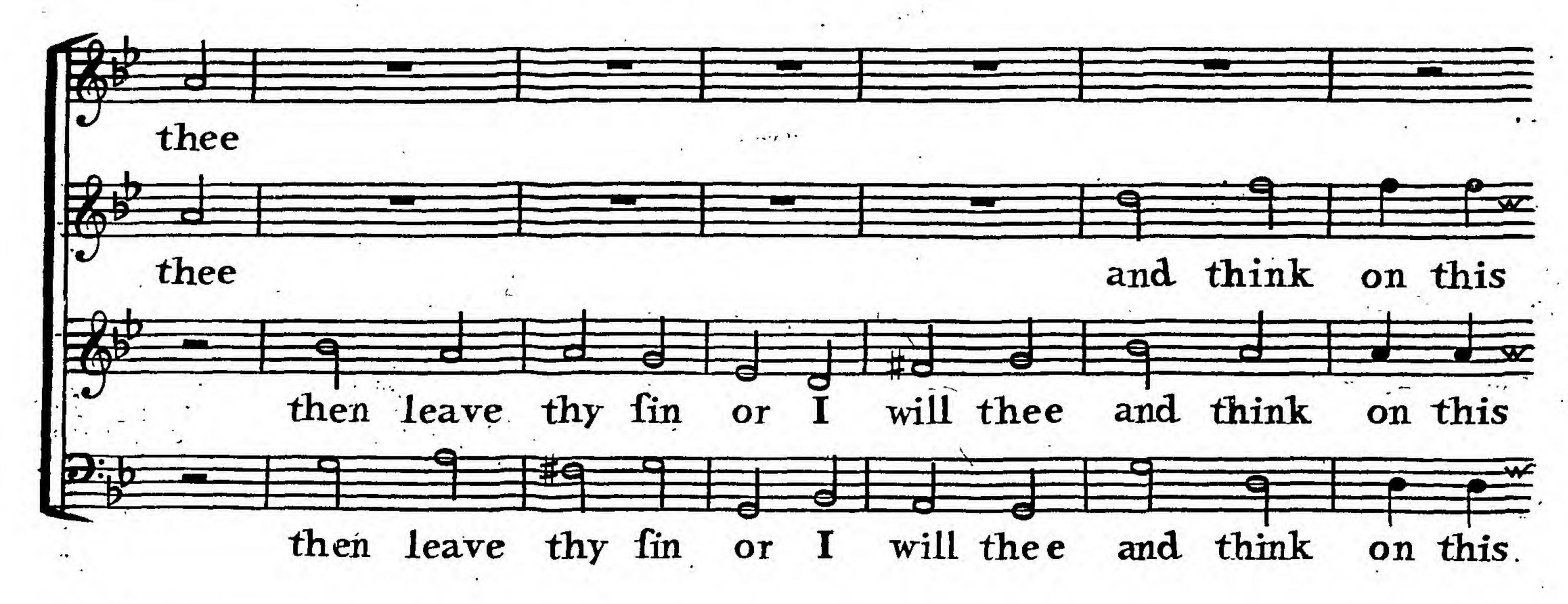


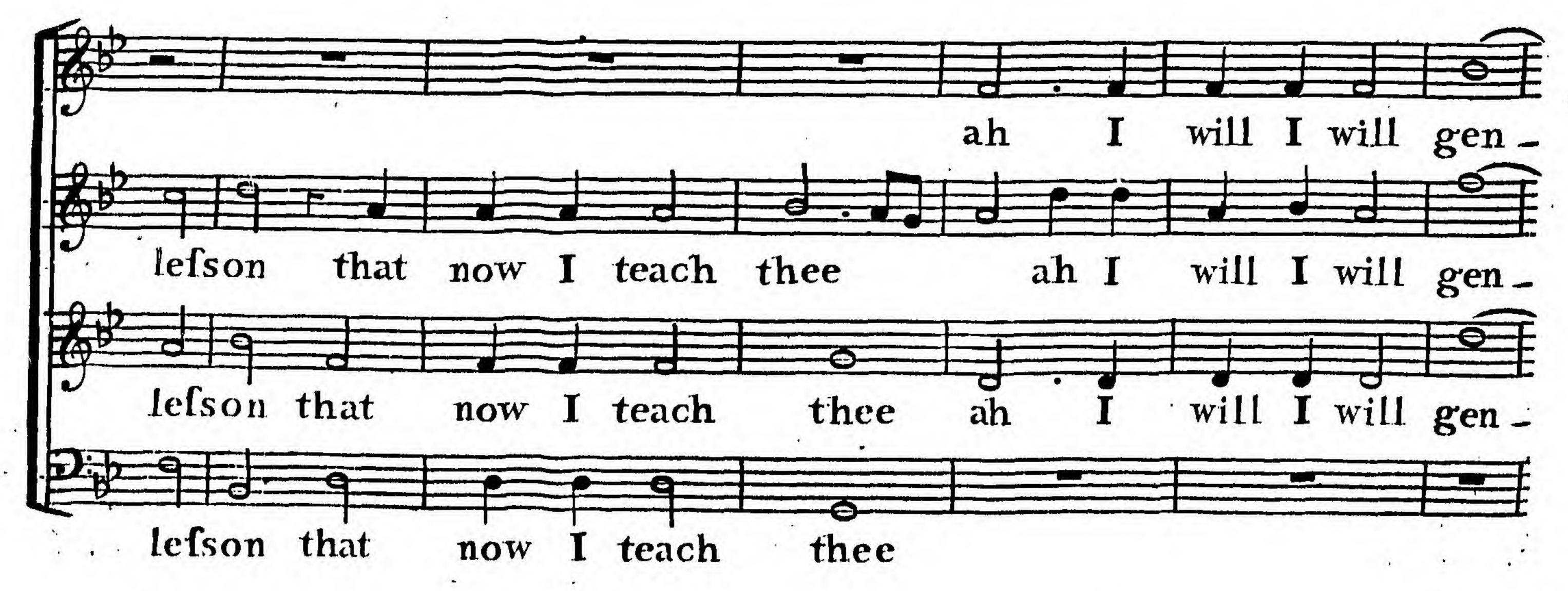








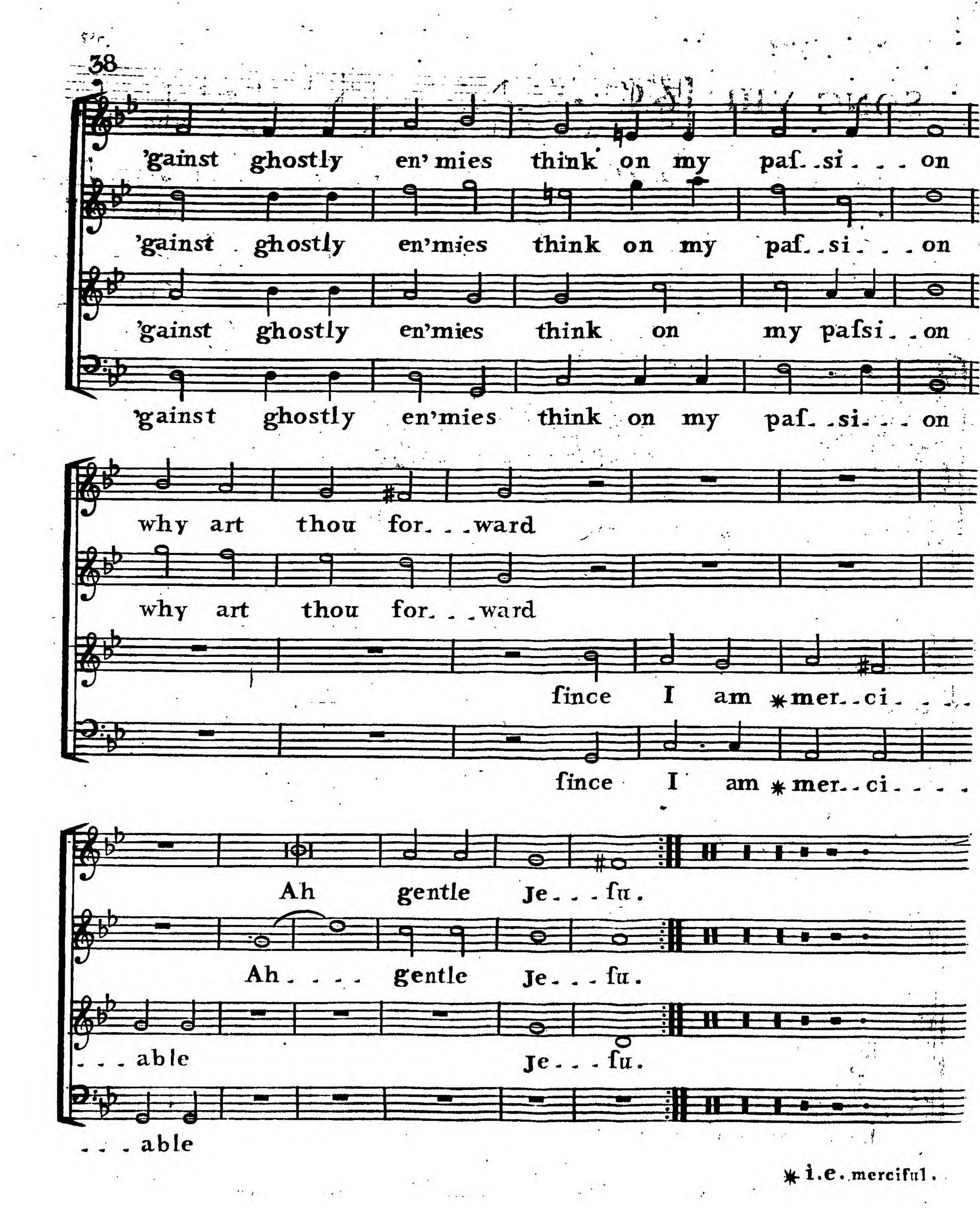




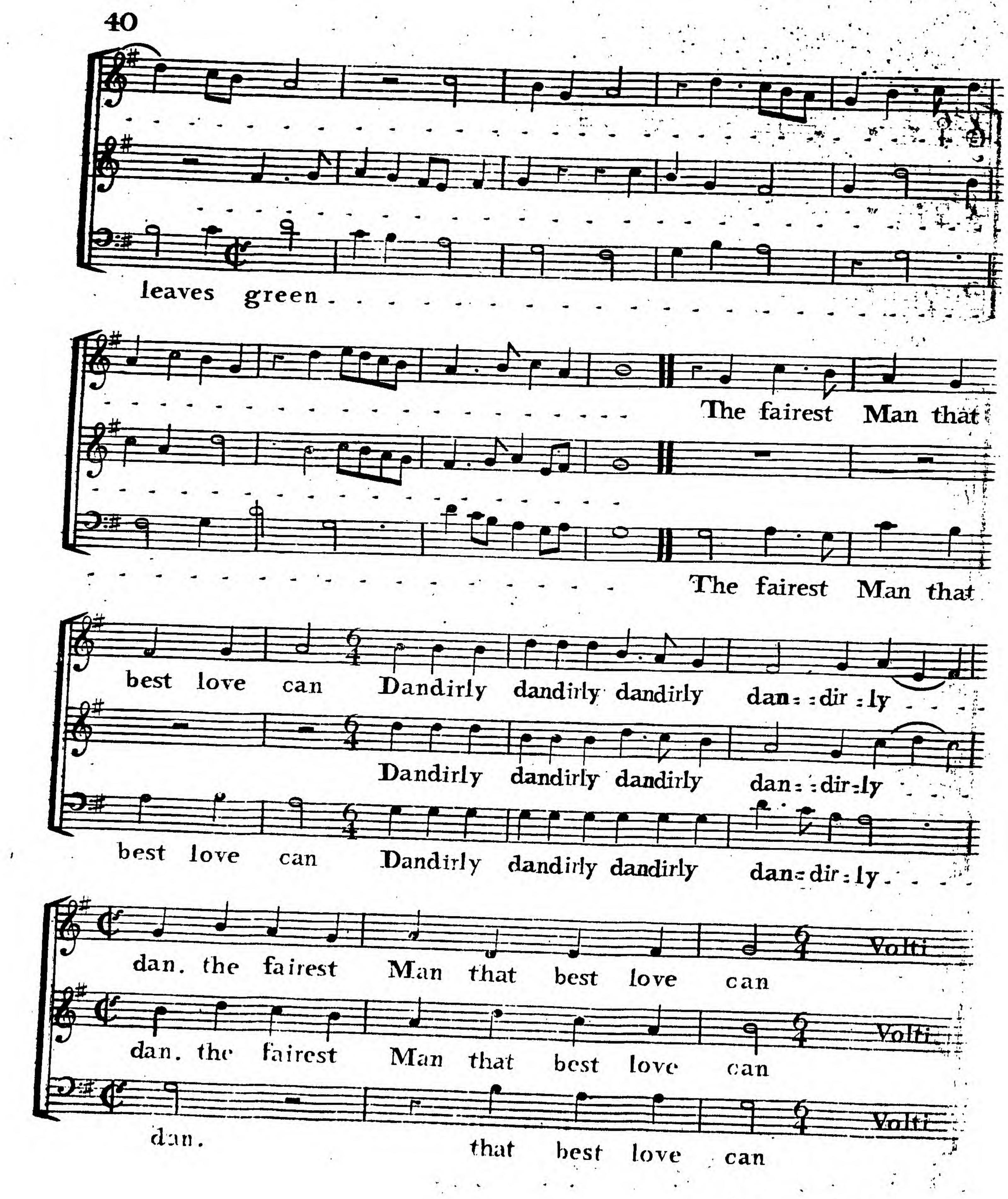








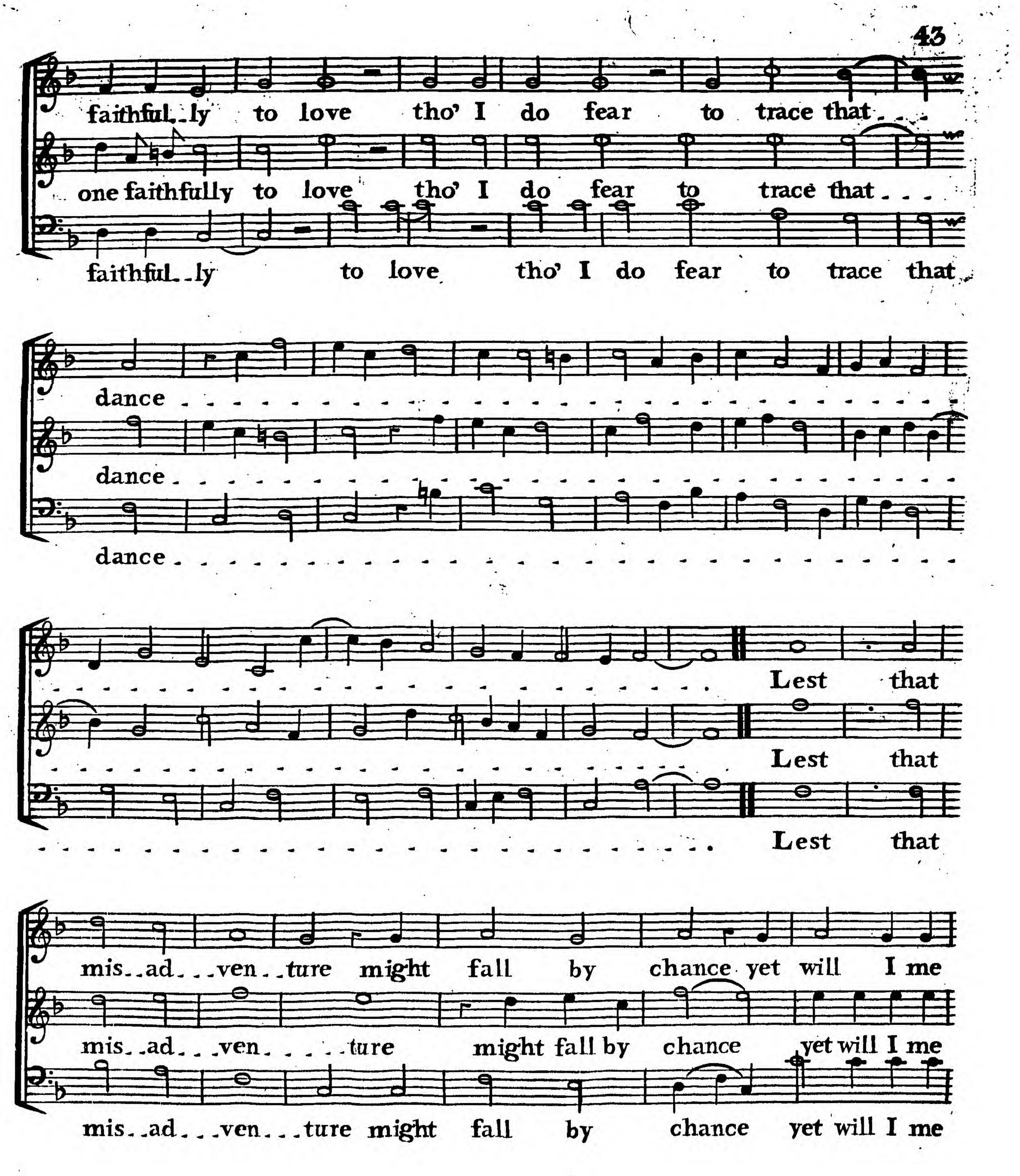




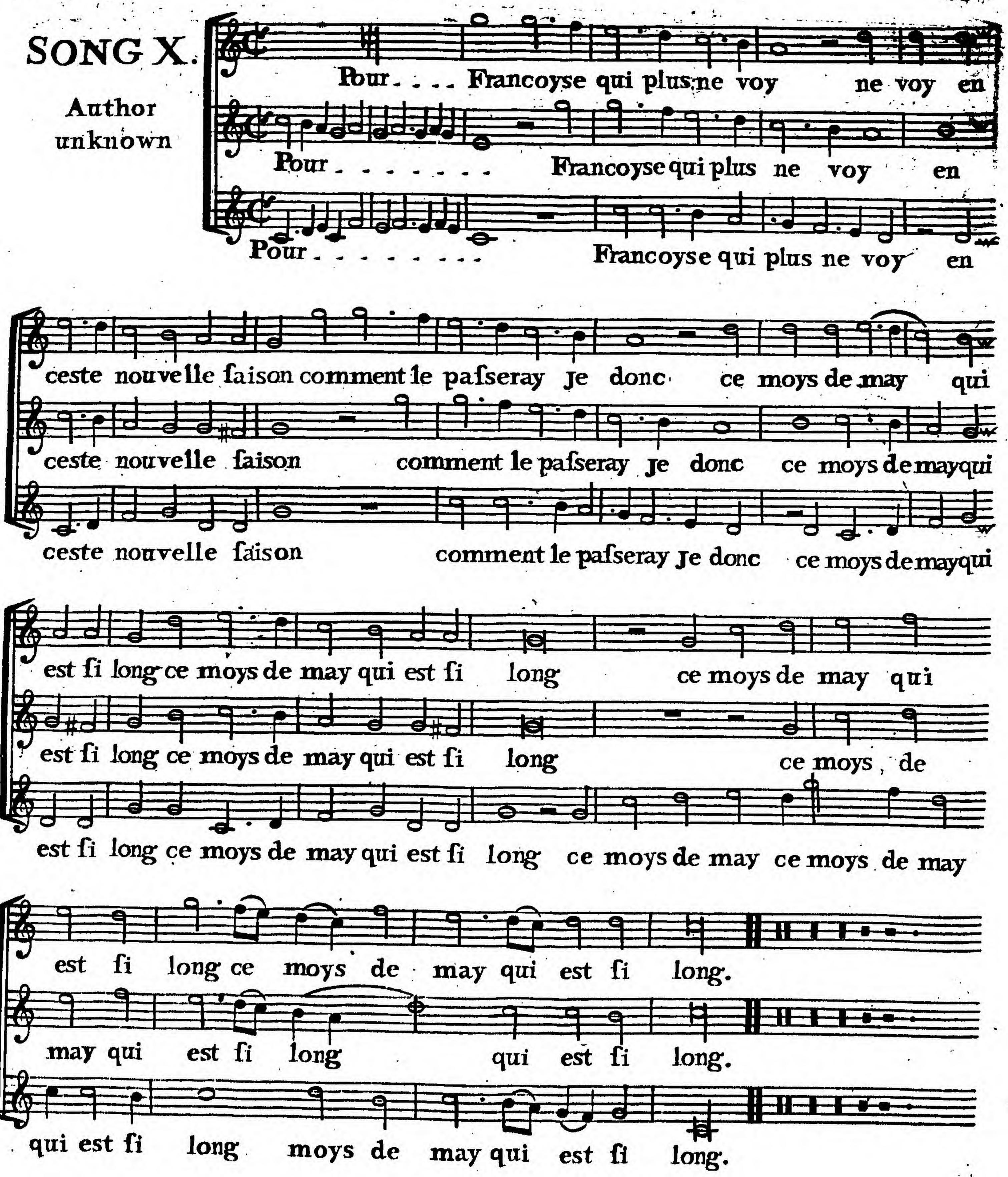




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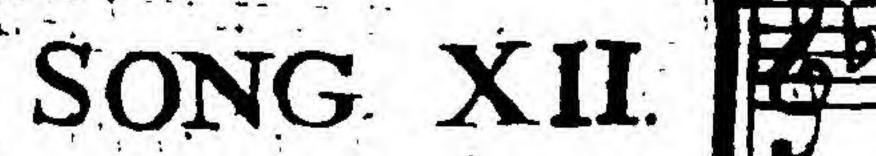




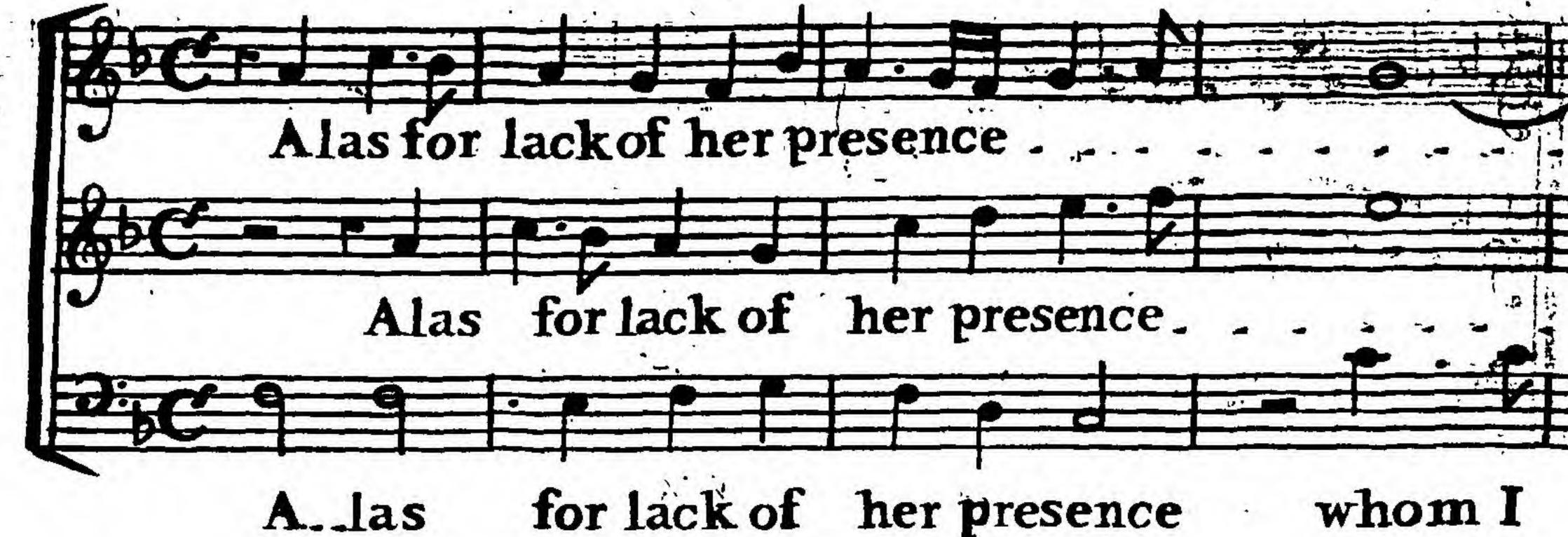




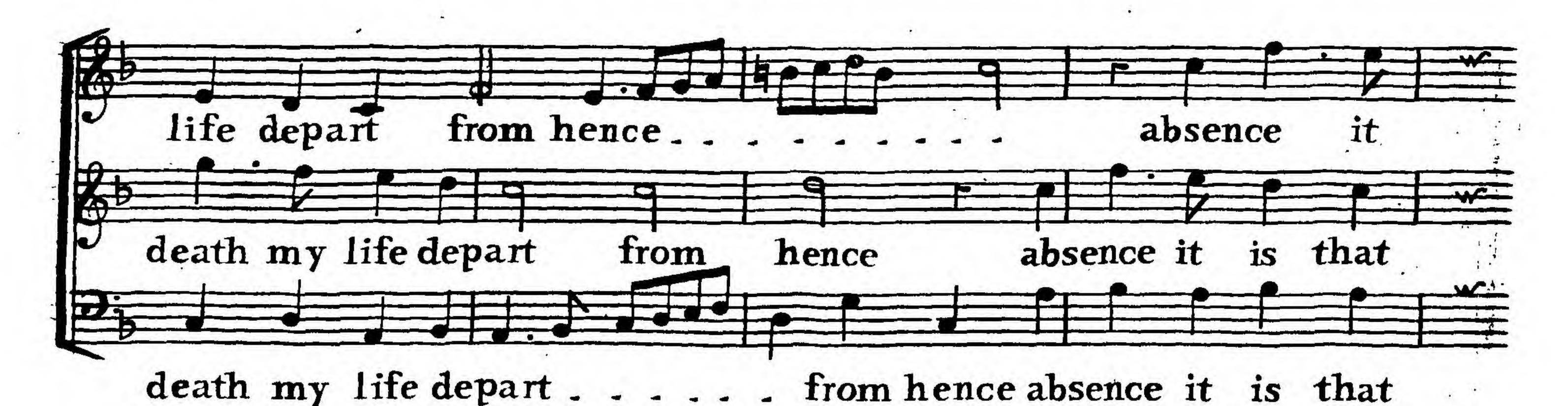




Robard Fayrfax











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